

حكاية من الماضي



**CHILDREN'S SHOWS**  
Round-up of the best theatrical fare  
Arts, page 28



**QUIZ OF THE YEAR**  
In nine pages of sports coverage  
Pages 17-25, Quiz, 21



**LYNNE TRUSS**  
Hanging on to our friends' coat-tails  
Literary borrowers, page 12

**30P**

# THE TIMES

No. 64,837

TUESDAY DECEMBER 28 1993

PK

Bottomley concerned by 'twins at 59' case as Rome doctor fuels ethics debate

## UK acts over babies for older mothers

By JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

TIGHTER international regulations on the provision of fertility treatment to older women are to be sought by the Government following the birth of twins to a 59-year-old British woman in London.

The mother, an unnamed millionaire businesswoman, was impregnated artificially with eggs donated by a younger woman at a clinic in Rome, after being refused treatment in Britain. Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, said that similar cases would not be allowed in Britain.

However, at least 13 women aged between 50 and 52 are known to have undergone in vitro fertilisation at British clinics and at least two have given birth. The law does not set an upper age limit for treatment but doctors are required to weigh up the risks and take account of the welfare of the child under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act.

Mrs Bottomley said that she had "reservations" about the case of the 59-year-old woman who is believed to be the world's oldest mother of twins. "In this country it would have been most unlikely to get through. Women do not have the right to have a child. The child has a right to a suitable home," she told BBC Radio 4.

She added: "We cannot stop people going to any country in the world for treatment but maybe we'll renew our efforts to have discussions with other countries as to the examples we set and how they can establish ethical controls over some of the dramatic achievements in modern medicine."

A health department

While doctors are split over the ethics of fertility treatment for older women, the Government is pressing for tougher international restrictions



"In this country it would have been most unlikely to get through. Women do not have the right to have a child."

Virginia Bottomley

spokesman said that European Health Ministers would be contacted in the new year. "We intend to explore possibilities and look for common ground. The next step is to ensure that European countries act in tandem on this issue," he said. Doctors re-

Youth is no guarantee of parental competence," he writes.

However, Steve Hillier, a member of the Human Fertilisation Authority and director of the Reproductive Endocrinology Laboratory at the University of Edinburgh said British centres would be expected to refuse treatment to a 59-year-old woman.

"It is absolutely remarkable and puzzling that any sensible practitioner would entertain treating a woman approaching the end of her sixth decade," he said. "Anyone sensible" would feel similarly uncomfortable about a man fathering a child at that age.

Dr Hillier said that under the code of practice there is an age limit of 55 for donors of semen and a limit of 35 for donors of eggs. The authority was "anxious and concerned" about the trend to offer treatment to older mothers. Clinics which failed to act responsibly in considering the welfare of patients or children could have their licences withdrawn.

"It is not illegal to treat women over 50 and it is left to the discretion of the doctors but it would be expected that they would take account of what it would be like for a child growing up with an old-age pensioner for a mother," he said.

Professor Robert Winston, director of the fertility unit at Hammersmith hospital, has criticised the treatment of older women. He said they were at greater risk from complica-



Rosanna Giorgi Della Corte, 62, and her husband Mauro, 65, at their home near Rome

tions in pregnancy and were not as deserving of eggs, which are in short supply. "I think it is unethical to use donor eggs on post-menopausal women when there are women in their 20s who have suffered an early menopause who deserve them more."

However, Professor Ian Craft, director of the London Fertility Centre, was more sympathetic. "Although I am not a proponent of fertility treatment for older women, I think a woman of an older age, up to a certain point, has as much right to be treated as a younger woman. I think it would be a negative thing if,

## Farmer's wife tells of her longing for a child at 62

By PHILIP WILLAN AND ANDREW PIERCE

A 62-YEAR-OLD Italian farmer's wife has become what is believed to be the oldest woman to become pregnant. Details of the latest test-tube controversy emerged last night as Virginia Bottomley expressed concern about the ethics of such cases and virtually ruled out similar births in Britain.

The Health Secretary intervened only 48 hours after the birth of twins to a 59-year-old British woman who had undergone fertility treatment earlier this year. The British woman was a patient of Professor Severino Antinori who treated the Italian woman Rosanna Della Corte who is three months pregnant and will be 63 in February.

She sought the help of the professor who pioneers controversial test-tube baby techniques after the death of her only son, Riccardo.

The case is likely to further fuel the ethics debate but Signora Della Corte has no regrets. Speaking to *The Times* she said: "If I still had Riccardo I would never have done it. I just wanted a baby so much. I was prepared to do anything."

"I would so like to have another boy. He would look like Riccardo. I would so like to see the likeness of Riccardo again but I will accept the child just as it comes."

Professor Antinori claims that five British women, aged between 50 and 55, have become pregnant after seeking treatment at his private Rome clinic. A further 20 British women were on a waiting list. He is reported to have treated 1,000 women at his clinic with 35 successful births by women over the age of 50.

Signora Della Corte received the transplant of an egg from a younger woman

fertilised with the sperm of her husband, Mauro, 65. An implant carried out by Professor Antinori last year ended in a spontaneous abortion. The couple tried unsuccessfully to adopt a baby and when that failed turned to the professor at his private clinic.

Signora Della Corte, who gave birth to her son Riccardo when she was 42, had long discussions with her husband before they made the decision. She said: "He is the strong one. I might have changed my mind, but Mauro said no, press ahead." They took into account the fact that all the



Riccardo, son who died

members of her family had lived long lives. Her mother had died at the age of 86 and her father at 93.

Far from being scandalised, the tightly-knit 5,000 strong community of Canino in the Apennines has rallied round the couple. Signora Della Corte said: "Everyone tells me to take it easy. They come to help me with washing and ironing. Everyone is concerned for me, perhaps they know the great sorrow I have had and are afraid for me."

The couple's son was killed in July 1990 as he was riding on his Vespa motorcycle.

INDEX	
Arts	27, 28
Births, marriages, deaths	14
Business	29-30, 32
Chess	6, 32
Court and Social	14
Crossword	16
Diary	12
Law	26
Leading articles	13
Letters	13
Obituaries	15
Weather	16
TV & Radio	31

Buying The Times overseas  
Australia \$20.00; Belgium B 20.00; Canada \$22.00; Channel Islands £12.00; Cyprus £12.00; Denmark D 16.00; Finland Mk 15.00; France F 12.00; Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar £8.00; Greece Dr 35.00; Netherlands Fl 4.50; Irish Republic £5.00; Italy L 3,500; Luxembourg Lf 40.00; Madeira Esc 27.50; Malta £35.00; Morocco Dir 25.00; Norway Kr 14.00; Portugal Esc 27.50; Spain Ptas 350; Sweden Skr 17.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.80; Tunisia Dtn 2.00; USA \$3.00.



## Mob try to stop police from taking 'home alone' children

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A JEERING mob surrounded police and social workers as they arrived to take into care three young children left alone in a maisonette on a Midlands council housing estate.

The angry crowd demanded that they leave the children in the house until their father returned home. Some women attempted to get men to obstruct police, who were trying to break down the front door, secured by eight bolts. Police were so alarmed that violence might erupt on the Heath Town estate, in Wolverhampton, that they decided not to arrest the father at the scene.

The children, two boys aged five and four, and a two-year-old girl, had been locked inside the maisonette without food or drink in "appalling" conditions. Last night they

were being looked after by foster parents and police said that their father was co-operating fully with their enquiries.

Supt John Colston, heading the enquiry into the fifth Christmas "home alone" case, said: "It is unbelievable... that children can be left... in such appalling conditions."

The children were discovered after police received a tip-off on Sunday afternoon. Police and social workers arrived at the premises and spoke to the older children through the letter box. Police gained entry by breaking through a heavily boarded window.

The children had been watching television but there was no sign of any food or drink for them.

Supt Colston said: "The

children were generally dirty. The little girl was wearing a soiled nappy and the bedclothes were also soiled. There was only a single blanket on the boys' bed and the girl's cot, which is clearly insufficient at this time of the year." He added that a communal heating system was switched on and the children did not appear malnourished.

The father arrived home with his 16-year-old girl friend 20 minutes after the police, but because of the volatile situation it was decided not to arrest him. The children lived with their father after their mother left some time ago.

In another case, the father of a two-year-old boy found at home alone in Brighton was remanded in custody for eight days by magistrates.

## Russian kidnap gang held

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A FOUR-DAY drama, in which four gunmen shuttled 12 schoolchildren and four adult hostages across southern Russia in a commandeered helicopter, ended with the arrest of the kidnapers yesterday as they fled through the Caucasus mountains with a \$10 million ransom.

The gunmen left the aircraft but were seized after a gun battle. Their captives, most of whom had been released during bargaining with officials, were unharmed and most of the money was recovered.

One gunman was quoted as saying he needed money for AIDS treatment. The ordeal began last Thursday when the men burst into a classroom.

Luck runs out, page 9

## Hurd warns IRA of tougher tactics

By NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TOUGHER security measures will be directed against the IRA if they reject the Downing Street declaration, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said yesterday.

In the Government's strongest attack on the IRA since the declaration of 15 December, Mr Hurd called on the provisionals to stop prevaricating and accept the agreement.

His comments were broadcast in a BBC radio interview hours after the IRA underlined its dissatisfaction with John Major's peace initiative by firing a mortar bomb into a Co Tyrone police station just 16 minutes after the end of its 72-hour Christmas ceasefire.

Mr Hurd, who was Northern Ireland Secretary between 1984 and 1985, said: "If you (the

IRA) are not going to go for the declaration at the present time then security measures against you will be intensified and you can expect no let-up and no quarter on that front."

He added that the declaration had put immense pressure on the IRA. "They can no longer exploit divisions between the British and Irish governments or stir up trouble in the United States as they have done in the past," he said.

The Government is frustrated that the IRA, which is embarking on an intense round of consultations among its hundreds of members on the declaration, has said it could take weeks to work out a response.

Continued on page 2, col 6

## Graces may be saved by lottery

By ALISON ROBERTS AND JOHN SHAW

ANTONIO Canova's *The Three Graces*, the subject of a four-year Anglo-American wrangle, is likely to be the first work of art saved by the National Lottery. The Heritage Department has announced it may defer export of the sculpture for an unprecedented 18 months.

Although the move will anger the J Paul Getty Museum in California, which bought the sculpture for £7.6 million in September, it is sure to delight the British art community, most of whom regard the 174-year-old *Graces* as a national treasure.

The Getty, one of the richest museums in the world, has been refused an export licence

Continued on page 2, col 5

# HEAL'S WINTER SALE STARTS TODAY

As temperatures drop so do the prices at Heal's Winter Sale. There are substantial savings to be made on an enormous range of items right across the store. Best get your skates on.

TOTTENHAM CT RD, W1 HEAL'S TUNSGATE GUILDFORD



# Senior Tory calls for Yeo's resignation over love child

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TIM Yeo, the Tory minister who admitted being the father of a love child, won the cautious backing of Conservative MPs yesterday, but faced a resignation call from one prominent colleague.

The countryside minister's admission that a Conservative councillor had had his baby was generally accepted by backbenchers as a private matter that did not require his resignation.

However, David Evans, a member of the 1922 Committee's executive, called for Mr Yeo's resignation, claiming that his conduct undermined John Major.

Mr Evans, an outspoken right-wing MP, said that ministers or MPs "who do not behave in a way that nine out of ten people expect them to behave undermine the Prime Minister every time they do it".

It was disclosed that the weekend that Mr Yeo had had an affair with Julia Stent, a Conservative councillor in the east London borough of Hackney, and that he was the father of Claudia-Marie, who was born in July.

Mr Evans told BBC Radio 4's *The World at One*: "We have set standards. We are a party of family values. I believe anybody that sets themselves up in public life has a duty to set an example."

"If you accept the privilege, the responsibility and the honour of being a minister of the Crown, you have certain standards to set. Unfortunately, in the last year or so several of our ministers have not set that standard. If you do it and don't get caught, fair enough. If you get caught, goodbye."

In October, Mr Evans led calls for Steven Norris, the transport minister, to resign after revelations about his private life, but the Prime Minister took no action. Mr Major also rejected an offer to resign from David Mellor, then Heritage Secretary, after disclosures about his private life.

The forthright remarks by

Mr Evans, a personal friend of Mr Major, suggested that the issue would not blow over as quickly as ministers had hoped. While his comments had some support among right-wing colleagues, his view was not generally held by MPs who followed the lead of senior ministers in backing Mr Yeo.

There was some disquiet among Tory MPs that the party's strong stance on moral issues and family values would be weakened by the latest revelation and could prompt indignation among some Conservative supporters.

Some MPs are concerned that Mr Major, in backing other ministers who have admitted having affairs, has created a precedent that could prove increasingly embarrassing if there were further revelations about ministers' personal lives.

One senior backbencher said: "People generally take a mature attitude to these cases, but it is becoming increasingly awkward for a party espousing the importance of family values. The Prime Minister has little choice but to stand by his ministers, but we have to face our constituents and some of them don't like it."

Other MPs were relieved that the disclosures had come during the Commons recess and that Mr Yeo's ministerial responsibilities did not involve him directly in family issues. "If he had still been at the Health Department [where he was a minister until last May], he would have had to resign, but now he should be able to stay on," said one MP.

Although senior Conservatives in Mr Yeo's South Suffolk constituency have yet to discuss the matter, Patricia FitzPatrick, the chairman of the constituency association, said yesterday that she expected support for the MP.

"His personal life has certainly not affected the constituency at all," she said. "He has been more than honest with what he has said."

## Animal rights campaigners aim to turn hunt enthusiasts into the quarry

CHRIS HARRIS



Members of the East Essex Hunt set out at Roxwell, near Chelmsford, yesterday in spite of the attentions of about a hundred anti-blood sport demonstrators

## Activists claim growing support from MPs

By ANDREW PIERCE

**ANIMAL** rights activists who launched a new campaign yesterday to ban hunting have secured the support of a growing number of MPs who want to outlaw the sport on private land.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is proposing in the Criminal Justice Bill to give sweeping new powers to police to tackle hunt saboteurs, who will face fines or imprisonment if they trespass at hunts. However MPs from all sides are considering an amendment that would treat hunt supporters in the same way.

Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West, said: "The amendment will be put down if we are going to have a situation, where the Government seems to be siding heavily with the hunt lobby. We have all had complaints about hunts which stampee over people's land when they have been

**Politicians want hunt supporters and saboteurs to be treated equally under the Criminal Justice Bill**

specifically told not to. There has to be some equity in the law.

"If there is a free vote we will win. There are a growing number of Tory MPs who are minded to persuade the Government that they want a free vote. We want to criminalise both sides, not just one."

The MPs will put down amendments to the Bill on January 31 which would make "hunt trespass" a criminal offence. Hunts that enter property illegally, such as railways and roads, would be prosecuted for trespass.

If, as expected, in some quarters the Government allows a free vote, the hunt lobby could be in trouble. Tory MPs have told the Commons animal welfare group of their anxiety that the

Government seems to be taking only one side of the hunting argument.

Mr Banks launched a poster campaign for the League Against Cruelty in London yesterday. The posters are aimed at the 14 out of 47 county councils that have not banned hunting on their land. More are expected to follow suit next year.

John Bryant, wildlife officer for the league, said: "We are on the threshold of a major change. We are becoming very excited about Michael Howard's Bill. Hunts trespass regularly. I think hunt masters will resign in droves once they have got five or six convictions."

"We are hearing encouraging sounds from MPs from both sides. If there is a free

vote I think we can win." The police had anticipated possibly violent demonstrations at the traditional Boxing Day hunts yesterday and there were only isolated incidents.

One of the country's most famous meets, the Hursley Hambleton in Hampshire, which traditionally has been held in Romsey on Boxing Day, was transferred on police advice because of the threat of disturbances.

Last year there was uproar when protesters filled the Market Place at Romsey. The meet was held at Meonstoke, about 30 miles from Romsey. The hunt is always welcomed into the Market Place to receive a stirrup cup from the mayor. The ceremony took place in Meonstoke instead.

Peter Youte, a spokesman for the British Field Sports Society, insisted that current trespass legislation covered hunts.

"It is because of what they fear in the Criminal Justice Bill, the power to fine and



Banks: "There must be equity in the law"

imprison saboteurs, that there were no problems. We encountered peaceful demonstrators with banners. No balaclavas or sticks. They don't want any more difficulties with the Government. There have been no problems today," he said.

"It is a great relief. We don't object to peaceful demonstrations. We object to intimidation and violence."

## MULTIYORK

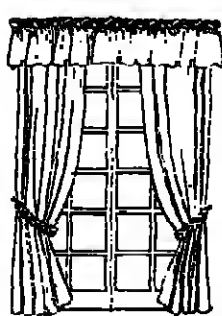
High Quality Furniture  
Direct from the Manufacturer

Made to Order  
**SALE**  
NOW ON

- Huge range of Fabrics
- Large Discounts
- Up to 3 Years 0% Credit

Handmade Sofas from £595, Suites from £1495

- Tailored Totally Removable Covers.
- Thousands of fabrics to choose from.
- Large range of models and sizes.
- Sofas, Sofabeds, Armchairs Suites or Groups.
- Soft or firm comfort levels.
- Hardwood frame & steel spring construction, guaranteed for 10 years.
- Individually handmade to order.



### SALE OFFERS

On Made to Order Curtains, Soft furnishings & Period Style, Oak, Cherry Mahogany & Yew.



All with up to 3 Years 0% Credit

Minimum order £200. Minimum Deposit 15%. Credit Example Price £2600. Deposit £404.

Then pay 36 monthly payments of £61. APR 0% Licensed credit brokers. Written quotations on request. Subject to status. JSM1

OPEN DAILY UNTIL 5.30 pm

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS until 6 pm

BRIGHTON	25 Church Square, 1st Floor, Behind Habitat	0273 208291	MAIDSTONE	4061 High Street, Next to Pizza Hut	0622 683072
BIRMINGHAM	10211 Pinner Street, Bet. C&A/Morrells Hotel	0272 22323	MILLIS SUFFOLK	The Old Mill, Millis, Bet. A140145 & N140145	0179 784113
BROMLEY	1401 Westborough Place, Behind Habitat	0181 642259	NEWCASTLE	25 Market Street, Next to Bona Dept Store	0191 230 4704
CAMBRIDGE	1 Millers Road, Ch. Millers' Corner	0223 313465	NORTHAMPTON	102A, Avenue 55, Off BBC Radio Northampton	0454 264545
CANTERBURY	Watsons Hse, Rose Ln, Next to Church of St Andrew	0227 785485	NORWICH	99/101 Prince of Wales Rd, Next to Hotel Newall	0603 616239
CHELTENHAM	31/31 Portland St, Next to Holy Trinity Church	0242 242433	OXFORD	147/151 St Ewan Street, Behind Macmillan Building	01865 726733
CHESTER	33 Power Street, Next to Habitat	0244 323377	PALMER GREEN	309/311 Green Lane, Opposite Tangle	01865 514
COLCHESTER	1 Vella Road, St. Vincent, No Tollgate Centre	0206 42007	READING	2 Thorne Way, Winkley St, Next to Winkley Ltd	0734 583041
DEBARY	11/13 Bonington Ln, Off St. Peter St, Town Ctr.	01352 349113	ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS	104/113 Causton St, Opp. Coas Coas Ltd	01892 528611
GLIDFORD	10/10 North Street, Opposite The Library	0483 491613	SHEFFIELD	2/4 Charter Sq, Off, Opposite Debenhams	0742 722691
HARROGATE	33/35 Palladium Street, Opposite Debenhams	0433 327696	SOLIHULL	38/40 Mill Lane, Opposite Aldi	021 711 2922
HORNCHURCH	187 High Street, Next to the King's Head	0708 470299	ST ALBANS	16 Christchurch Place, Off Market Place	0753 835888
KENSINGTON	24/26 Thurlow Place, Bet. Museum & Tube	071 589 2303	SUTTON	Grove Road, Opposite M&S Super Centre	021 323 3200
KINGSTON	355 Kings Road (Plaza) End, SW	071 371 1629	SWISS COTTAGE	Finchley Road, Near Boots	01753 728100
LOUGHTON	38/40 Eves Street, Behind M&S, No Post Office	081 546 5040	WATFORD	125 The Parade, Opp. The Parade & Mansions	0923 230042
MANCHESTER	102A High Road, Opposite St. Vincent St	0161 302 4121	WESTBURY	60/68 Church Street, N. St. James Church	01753 809990
MILTON KEYNES	12/14 St. Mary's Gate, Bet. M&S/Debenhams	0461 839 4339	WORCESTER	8-9 Church Place, Off The High St & Theatre	0905 612569

SHOWROOMS NOW OPEN IN OXFORD AND CHESTER

## Lottery may come to rescue of Graces

Continued from page 1  
once before — in 1989 when it tried to buy the sculpture for the same price. The American museum then issued a bitter statement claiming that the British Government had "not dealt with us properly or fairly".

The recommendation not to export from the Government's independent reviewing committee on works of art comes with the National Lottery now in prospect. While previous attempts to raise money to keep the masterpiece in Britain have failed, the lottery could transform the situation.

Peter Brooke, the Heritage Secretary, has made it clear that some of the £1.5 billion expected from the game can be legitimately used to keep works of art from leaving Britain. He said: "The objects concerned would normally be those 'starred' by the reviewing committee as being of exceptional importance, for which every effort should be made to retain them in the United Kingdom."

Mr Brooke will ask figures from the art and museum worlds for further advice and a final decision on the future of the sculpture, previously owned by the Marquis of Tavistock and kept at Woburn Abbey from 1819 to 1985, will be made in February.

Sir Denis Mahon, the art historian welcomed the latest move by the Government but said the only problem was the length of time involved "which is a bit unfair to the Getty Museum".

Sir Denis said Mr Brooke should ask the Treasury for a loan to buy it now knowing the money would be repaid from lottery funds in about a year.

## Ultimatum by Hurd to IRA terrorists

Continued from page 1  
Important discussions have been taking place over Christmas with the 60 IRA prisoners released on a week's home leave. Mr Hurd hinted that he hoped their sobering experience in prison would encourage them to respond positively to the declaration.

He said: "The line against them, the ring round them, has become much more solid. That I hope will lead more and more of them to say: 'What is all about? Why are we putting ourselves at risk? Why are so many of our relatives behind bars?'"

Mr Hurd's threat of tougher measures against the IRA ties in with similar warnings from Albert Reynolds, the Irish Prime Minister. However, the two governments have not spelt out what these measures would entail.

Internment of paramilitary suspects, which is favoured by many unionists, would be difficult to implement effectively because Mr Reynolds has ruled it out in the republic. Security experts say that internment could only succeed if it was introduced simultaneously on both sides of the border.

The Government's hopes for peace suffered a setback when the IRA launched a mortar attack into the grounds of an RUC station at Fintona, Co Tyrone, in the early hours of yesterday. But the attack does not amount to an IRA rejection of the declaration because the provisionals believe that such bombings allow them to negotiate from a position of strength. But the Rev William McCrea, the local Democratic Unionist MP, said that the mortar attack was the IRA's answer to London's policy of appeasement.

### CORRECTIONS

In William Rees-Mogg's column yesterday, references in the first paragraph to the Bishop of Durham as "primate" should have read "primate".

In the first edition yesterday,

an agency photograph of Edward Leigh, Conservative MP for Gainsborough & Horncastle, was incorrectly captioned as Tim Yeo, the countryside minister and MP for Suffolk South. We apologise for the error.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Minister explains Jamaican action

The Government today denies that the detention of half a plane load of Jamaicans at Gatwick was racially motivated. In a letter to *The Times*, Charles Wardle, the immigration minister, defends the action that led to 27 men being expelled from Britain on Christmas Day.

He says that among the 323 Jamaicans on a charter flight were a number of cases needing further investigation. "This was not one of the regular flights from Jamaica, which are dealt with practically every day of the week with little difficulty. But where a passenger does not qualify for entry then it is right to refuse it."

Letters, page 13

### Ex-husband killed

Police are hunting for a man who fled from a woman's house after her former husband received stab wounds from which he later died. Aidan Bracken, 28, who is thought to have been paying his former wife a Christmas visit, died in a Truro hospital. Police had been called to the house in Bodmin, Cornwall, where they found Mr Bracken in a bedroom with serious stab wounds in the abdomen. Devon and Cornwall police said that a man who fled in a stolen Ford Escort may still have the murder weapon, believed to be a kitchen carving knife.

### Girls 'saw gang rape'

The rape of two girls aged 14 and 15 by a gang of youths may have been witnessed by four teenage girls, police said yesterday. Detectives repeated their appeal for witnesses to the attack in Calford, southeast London, last Wednesday evening. The girls were grabbed as they approached a McDonald's restaurant and raped by seven youths egged on by others. Police said three girls may have seen the attack in an alleyway near the Rising Sun public house. A fourth girl was later heard talking about the attack. She was a light-skinned black girl, with pulled back hair and glasses.

### Baby 'fights off HIV'

A 20-month-old baby has reportedly tested HIV negative after six earlier tests proved positive. Daniel Orme's father Roy Orme, 26, is a haemophiliac with HIV. Tina Orme, 21, was one of five women he infected. Miss Orme said doctors told her the baby might fight the virus. She told *Today*: "I always lived in hope that a small miracle could happen."

### Henge tunnel backed

A long traffic tunnel beneath Stonehenge is practicable and desirable, English Heritage, the owner of the site, and the National Trust have announced. The Department of Transport has agreed on the feasibility of the scheme after a report by its consulting engineers. The high cost of about £200 million is the main obstacle.

### Britons snap up snails

British cross-Channel day-trippers took home more than 50,000 snails as well as cheap beer and wine, a supermarket manager at Calais confirmed yesterday. Frogs' legs also proved popular with more than 1,300lb making the one-way journey. During November and December, Britons made up almost half the shoppers at the big Calais stores.

## Anti-crime woman accused of arson

AVANTICRIME, the anti-crime organisation, has accused a woman of arson after she was charged with setting fire to a house in the town of Havering, Essex.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durbin, 40, an anti-crime volunteer, was charged with arson after a house in Havering, Essex, was destroyed by fire on Christmas Day.

هكذا من الأصل



Physician who helped woman of 59 have twins pays little attention to critics

## Under the spotlight: the Italian doctor who breeds publicity

FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN ROME

DR SEVERINO Antinori, who treated the 59-year-old British woman who gave birth to twins in London, is no stranger to controversy and is well-acquainted to the glare of media attention.

The 48-year-old Calabrian-born gynaecologist, who is married and the father of two children, has specialised in driving back the frontiers of human reproductive science while paying scant attention to the ethical problems raised and to the clamour of his critics.

Dr Antinori, who also treated a 64-year-old Italian woman now expecting a child, learnt the rudiments of animal reproduction as a child when he followed the work of an uncle, a vet from the east central Italian town of Civitella del Tronto. After qualifying as a doctor he began working in the gynaecological department of the Regina Elena Hospital, a small public hospital in Rome.

One of his first claims to fame was the discovery of the so-called "salmon effect", the realisation that spermatozoa tend to swim against the current of the seminal fluid, rather like salmon swimming upriver. His claim was slightly tarnished when one of his collaborators, the biologist Roberto Guglielmo, said he had actually made the discovery, "which may be important from the scientific and diagnostic point of view but is by no means miraculous from a clinical standpoint".

Other medical authorities attribute the discovery to Dr Simon Fishel, the British pioneer of artificial insemination, with whom Dr Antinori collaborated for several years.

Dr Antinori's main claim to fame came with the revelation in 1988 that he had helped a 53-year-old woman to have a child by implanting one of her eggs, fertilised with the sperm from her partner, in the womb of the woman's daughter. An Italian magazine described the resulting boy as "the son of his sister and the brother of

his mother, so the uncle and the nephew of himself". The Vatican denounced the procedure in the strongest terms, the first of a series of Catholic anathemas that Dr Antinori's work has brought down on his head. The semi-official Vatican newspaper *Osservatore Romano* said the girl who brought the pregnancy to term had been "used as an incubator, the prisoner of the egoism of her mother and of abominable techniques. Her dignity as a woman has been killed." Once again the

**There is much scepticism about him. He is applying to human fertility techniques that were developed for cattle and pigs. Real researchers are not interested in this.**

publicity backfired. Things got off to a complicated start when Dr Antinori denied being responsible for the operation when interviewed on television and went so far as to criticise the procedure, only to admit subsequently that he was indeed the author of this medical exploit.

A spate of newspaper articles followed claiming the intrepid doctor was under investigation for alleged tax evasion, for defrauding four of his disappointed patients by failing to produce the desired child, and in connection with the legal complications resulting from the latest birth.

Dr Antinori now runs a private clinic in a prosperous quarter of Rome, only 500 yards from his critics in the Vatican. He hit the headlines in Italy most recently on December 22, when one of his patients, Cat Fenici, 30, gave birth to triplets in a Rome hospital. The multiple birth—

Signora Fenici and her husband had actually wanted quadruplets was obtained by a technique known as "assisted hatching", whereby an incision is made in the membrane of each egg to facilitate its implanting in the uterus.

The father, Stefano D'Antonio, admitted candidly that the couple had sought Dr Antinori's assistance as a matter of organisational convenience. "You know how it is, work, time... It was better to have a single pregnancy rather than three or four in succession."

Arnaldo D'Amico, medical correspondent for the Rome daily *La Repubblica*, believes that Dr Antinori has put his skills at the service of his patients' desires, rather than their health. "There is considerable scepticism about him in the Italian medical world," he said. "He is applying to human fertility techniques that were developed for cattle and pigs 30 years ago. Real researchers are not interested in this sector."

Dr Antinori pulled off another publicity coup when seven of his patients reportedly gave birth on the same day in the Regina Elena Hospital. Medical sources say he has used the fierce criticism generated by his activities to bolster his reputation as a much misunderstood medical genius.

In July Dr Antinori called off a planned visit to a patient in London, saying he had received death threats. He had planned to combine the trip with a holiday for his wife and daughters, aged 13 and 17.

Undeterred by criticism in England over the ethics of post-menopausal births, he said he intended to continue his campaign for civil rights in Britain, "so that a woman who is over 50 can ask for artificial fertilisation, something she is prevented from doing at the moment".

Tighter laws sought, page 1  
Body and Mind, page 11  
Sandy MacAra, page 12



Dr Antinori with Rosanna della Corte, one of his patients treated for infertility

## Ambulance stolen on emergency call

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

A MAN has been charged with stealing an ambulance from outside a social club while the crew were inside reviving a suspected heart attack victim.

The ambulance crew emerged after less than 10 minutes to take the stricken man to hospital to find the vehicle missing. They had to wait several minutes for another ambulance.

The missing ambulance was stopped in a nearby street by onlookers, who caught up with the driver and waited for Jason Murphy, 21, from Oxted, Surrey, was arrested in connection with the incident and bailed to appear before magistrates at Uckfield on February 3. He was later charged with taking an ambulance, drink-driving, driving while disqualified and without insurance.

The incident at the Cinq Ports club in Uckfield, East Sussex, on Sunday night brought scathing criticism from the ambulance service.

A senior spokesman said: "This just shows the depths

that people are prepared to go to these days. The people who did this must have been either incredibly evil or incredibly stupid."

"It would have been obvious that the ambulance was there to help treat someone or save their life. This is nothing short of callous."

The theft happened as a two-man crew worked to revive a guest attending a Christmas function in the club who had collapsed.

One ambulanceman said: "It seems the man was complaining of chest pains and this could well have been a heart attack and was therefore an emergency. The man was unconscious and had been going in and out of consciousness. He was very unwell."

Ambulance sources said that the delay in getting a back-up ambulance to the scene was only a matter of minutes. However, a spokesman added: "Any delay can be potentially fatal and this situation could have been a lot worse. We are frankly shocked."

## Schoolgirl mother reunited with baby

BY ROSEMARY SMITH

A 15-YEAR-OLD girl who gave birth secretly to a baby she then hid in a neighbour's outside lavatory was reunited with the infant in hospital yesterday. The schoolgirl gave birth in her bedroom while her parents slept in the room next door unaware that she was even pregnant.

The teenager, who has not been identified, gave birth to her 6½lb daughter at Newton Abbot, Devon, at 5am on Sunday. After feeding the baby and wrapping her in clothes and a quilt, she carried the baby into the garden and left her in the lavatory.

Police said: "Her parents became aware there was something wrong when they found a trail of blood. But they still didn't know what had happened and took the girl to Torbay hospital for a check up. It was only then that she admitted giving birth." Police went to the girl's

home where they found the seven-hour-old baby. She was taken to hospital where she was treated for hypothermia.

Yesterday, a hospital spokesman said that mother and baby were doing well, but no decision had been made about their future.

Police said they would interview the girl when she was stronger to make sure no criminal offence had taken place, but had passed the case to Devon County Council's social services department.

A lone parent who acted as surrogate mother for a middle-aged couple two years ago has borne them a second child. Alexandra Calder, 30, had her first baby for them two years ago after being artificially inseminated.

She agreed to carry a second child and delivered an 8lb 4oz girl at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, last month.

## Anti-crime woman accused of arson

BY HELEN NOWICKA

AN ANTI-CRIME campaigner has appeared in court accused of attempting to kill her former stepfather by setting fire to his house on Christmas Day.

Pauline Durant, an accountant and member of her local crime prevention panel, collapsed during the special court session at Windsor yesterday. The hearing was delayed while she was treated by police.

Magistrates were told that burning paper was pushed through the letterbox at Hiroshi Takahashi's home in Holyport, Berkshire, in the early hours of Christmas Day. Mr Takahashi, who was married to Mrs Durant's mother until her death, was in the house with his girl friend Andrea Savage, her son Peter and mother Mary Lesser. They were woken by shouting outside.

Mrs Durant, 37, is charged with arson with intent to endanger life and violent disorder.

Her brother Neil Sutton, 28, of no fixed address, Caven Knight, 18, of Lower Earley, Berkshire, and a 16-year-old youth who cannot be named, have also been charged after the incident.

All were released on bail until January 5.

## Police move crush barriers to protect new year crowd

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND ANGELA MACKAY

FRESH plans have been drawn up to control the crowds in Trafalgar Square on New Year's Eve after last year's near-disaster when senior police officers believe they came within minutes of losing control of the 120,000-strong crowd.

It was one of the most difficult times in the square since two women were crushed to death ten years before.

One big change will be a realignment of crush barriers in the square to cut down

"pinch points", which will lower the square's capacity by nearly 10,000 people.

Senior Scotland Yard officers' concerns were heightened by the tragedy in Hong Kong last year when 20 new year revellers were killed among a crowd of 20,000 that went out of control.

In all 127 people were treated last year for injuries received in Trafalgar Square on the night.

In the wake of Scotland Yard's fears, a safety committee was set up to plan for the

event. Members include representatives of Westminster City Council and the Heritage Department, which owns the square, as well as the police and other emergency services.

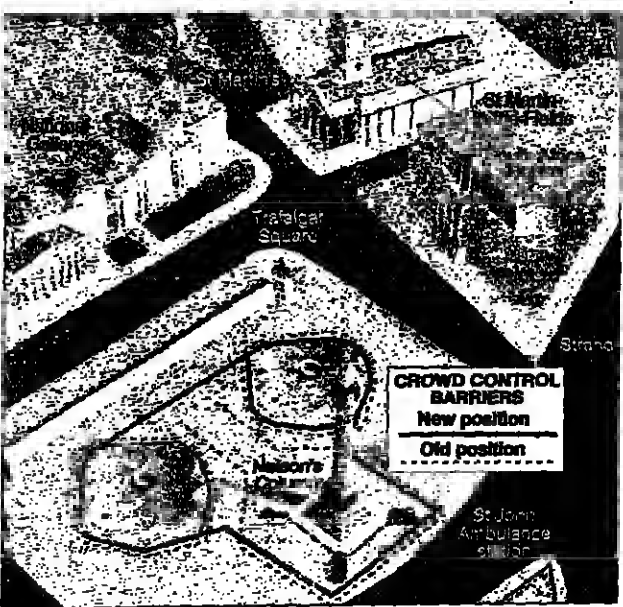
The decision to move the barriers was taken after a report by Westminster City Council's safety officer. It will mean that the fountains are in the police "sterile" area. In the past they ran between, leaving narrow corridors on either side, leading to a crush against the fountains when the crowd surged. The council will also grease the lamp-posts around the square to discourage people from climbing them and sending them crashing into the crowd.

Commander John Purnell, who will command operations on the ground on Friday night, said: "It's the first time we have used the new arrangements with the barriers and the only drawback may be that it will displace people into the surrounding streets."

There will again be a free bus service starting just before midnight but for the first time in ten years it will not have a sponsor.

In all, there will be about 1,900 officers on duty in the West End with about 1,000 in the vicinity of the square.

Mr Purnell added: "The problem that we have is that we are policing an event which doesn't have an organiser."



## Reserved: table for two, in your home

BY ROBIN YOUNG

NO LONGER is it necessary to make your way to a restaurant to enjoy a restaurant meal. Such is the state of trade that restaurants will have their food delivered to you or, if that is not good enough, come and fetch you to eat with them.

Until recently, 90 per cent of home delivered meals have been pizzas, but now about 50 restaurants in London have affiliated to a home delivery operation called Room Service.

Another restaurant in Hampstead has just started offering a free chauffeur service for anyone living within a five-mile radius who wants to come and

dine. Le Carapace, a French restaurant, also offers its menus of Provencal food at half price to those prepared to vacate their tables by 8pm, and offers half price on the à la carte menu to the under-12s or over-60s. Moreover, people who collect three bills from the restaurant can have a fourth meal free.

"We are trying to break the mould," the restaurant said yesterday. "We are aware that some restaurants have been landing in the soup lately, and we have no intention of joining them."

Room Service, founded by Ronnie Pearl and Gerald Gold, ferries the restaurants' food in insulated "butter bags" to addresses in central and northwest London, and the City. The

usual delivery time is about an hour, and the prices in Room Service's "dine-in guides" are the same as those on the restaurants' menus. A £4 delivery charge is added.

Other parts of the country are, as yet, not quite so well-served, though increasing numbers of ethnic restaurants and fish and chip shops are offering delivery services. Adlard's in Norwich is one gourmet restaurant which has introduced a take-away service.

Steven Saunders, chef proprietor at The Pink Geranium in Melbourn, Cambridgeshire, offers a chauffeur-driven limousine as far afield as London and Surrey, but charges "a taxi rate".

# At 10p for every 3 mins, could acquaintances won't be forgot.

BT is increasing the time per 5p call unit for weekend (midnight Friday to midnight Sunday) national direct dialled calls to 90 seconds from 37.95 seconds (for 'b' band calls), 50.35 ('b1' calls) and 80.8 ('a' calls). Different rates apply to payphones and BT Chargecard. Options and Supporttime customers benefit from the increased time per unit at the appropriate rate. Excludes calls to Premium Rate and mobile.



Palace meets industry minister to find ways of co-ordinating export drive by British companies

# Prince carves out frontline role as trade ambassador

By Philip Bassett and Edward Gorman

THE Prince of Wales is engaged in talks with government ministers on developing a new role for himself as "royal ambassador" for British business abroad, *The Times* has learnt.

In an interview with *The Times*, Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, said the talks were intended to help to define a precise role for the Prince in encouraging British companies in export markets.

The discussions, at which the Government is represented by Richard Needham, the industry minister, follow remarks by the Prince last month when he let it be known that he was dissatisfied with his limited role. He also pointed to a lack of co-ordination between him and the Government in promoting companies on his many overseas visits.

The Prince indicated strongly that, particularly since the break-up of his marriage, he wanted a more defined role in this area and believed it to be of benefit to Britain.

Mr Heseltine said he was keen to enable the Prince to make a greater contribution.

"We are delighted that he has this ambition to play a role. If he feels there is a role that he could play, then we must welcome that."

The disclosure comes after publication yesterday of leaked extracts from a newsletter to be sent by the Prince next month to more than 3,000 industrialists, MPs and academics in which he restates and explains his aims for his Prince's Trust initiatives.

Sources close to the Prince denied that the leak marked the first move in a deliberate attempt by him to sharpen his public profile in the wake of his separation from the Princess of Wales, the allegations of an adulterous affair and the decision by the Princess of Wales to temporarily retire from public life.

In his message entitled *Working Together*, the Prince appears to acknowledge that his philosophy sometimes seems a little obscure. "I thought it might be helpful if I were to restate the philosophy behind the work of my trusts."

In my travels around this country, it has become more and more apparent to me that when people feel excluded from their community and unable to make a contribution, the whole fabric of those communities is at serious risk. When that fabric starts to disintegrate, we all suffer, whatever our position."

The Prince calls for practical help from the Government to help disadvantaged people, calling it "a key partner in helping to co-ordinate what is being done and in encouraging local action."

Speculation that the Prince is attempting to capitalise on his wife's decision to cut back on her public engagements and to "repackage" or improve his image, was denied by Alan Percival, his press officer, yesterday. "It's a bit of a tabloid agenda to connect this in any way with developments on the Princess's side."

□ The Ven George Austin, the Archdeacon of York, said yesterday he had received hate mail from the public after condemning the Prince of Wales's alleged affair with Camilla Parker Bowles. But he said of the 200 letters received so far, they were about 2-1 in his favour.

Diary, page 12



The Prince wants a new "ambassadorial" role

# Year to remember the past and look to the future

By Alan Hamilton

IN CONTRAST to his estranged wife, the Prince of Wales is embarking on one of his busiest years, the highlight being the twenty-fifth anniversary of his investiture at Caernarfon Castle in July.

He will visit the town for a programme of events but there is no intention to recreate the ceremony within the castle walls.

Another high point will be the screening over several nights, probably in late June, of a television documentary on the Prince. The broadcaster Jonathan Dimbleby and a camera crew have shadowed the Prince for the past year. The result is expected to be a glowing tribute to the Prince's life and work.

At the time of his investiture in 1969, when public approval of the monarchy was low and Welsh nationalists were threatening to disrupt the ceremony, the Queen approved the making of the BBC film *Royal Family*, at the time an unprecedented insight into the private lives of the House of Windsor. Some traditionalists believe the film whetted an appetite for personal detail that has become so voracious that it threatens to destroy the last vestiges of the monarchy's mystique.

The Prince will visit Australia in late January, which will inevitably stir the cauldron of republican sentiment. Paul Keating, the Australian Prime Minister, has advocated the severing of his country's royal ties but the Prince's presence is expected to bring a strong traditionalist presence on to the streets.

A visit to St Petersburg is planned, following the Prince's declaration that he wished to help save the city's artistic treasures and his setting-up of the St Petersburg Initiative under the banner of the Prince of Wales's Business Leaders' Forum. Because of the volatile state of Russian politics, no date has been fixed.

The Prince is likely to take an active part in two main fiftieth-anniversary celebrations for key events of the Second World War. As colonel-in-chief of The Parachute Regiment, he will play a role in the commemoration of the Battle of Arnhem. Along with the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, he will take part in celebrations in June to mark the Normandy landings.

The Princess of Wales, on the other hand, has declared her withdrawal from public life. A proposed visit to a children's hospital in Moscow that receives training and supplies from Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, has been postponed indefinitely, and a planned visit to Japan has been cancelled.

The Princess is not expected to be out of the public eye for long. She is likely to appear in public, although less frequently, working for British Red Cross, of which she is a patron, and probably for Relate, formerly the Marriage Guidance Council, another of her favourite causes.

The year will be dominated by speculation about the couple's divorce. With no sign of a reconciliation, the Prince and Princess are expected to make an announcement towards the end of the year on whether or not they intend to stay married. In December they will have spent two years legally separated and they could end their marriage quickly and clearly, if they so wished.



Diana: to appear in public less frequently

**MOST STORES OPEN TODAY**

CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL STORE FOR DETAILS

# Dixons

# SALE

## TOP SPECIFICATION 486sx PCs FROM ONLY £899.99

### SAVE £100 ON PACKARD BELL 486SX PCs

**LEGEND ELITE 102HW 486SX PC**

- 25 MHz Intel 486SX processor
- 170Mb hard disk drive and 4Mb RAM
- Local Bus with Windows accelerator to boost performance in graphic environments
- MS-DOS 6.0, Microsoft Windows 3.1 and Navigator software. Includes 12 months on-site service.

Was £1099.99 inc. VAT, £936.16 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£999.99** inc. VAT **£851.66** ex. VAT

### SAVE UP TO £60 ON WORD PROCESSORS

**PANASONIC KXWL55**  
48K memory, 80 x 14 lines LCD display. Includes 12 months on-site service. Was £299.99 inc. VAT, £255.31 ex. VAT.

**SMITH CORONA**  
8000 17 word processor. 256K RAM, graphical user interface. Was £379.99 inc. VAT, £340.00 ex. VAT.

**AMSTRAD**  
PC 1012 word processor and daisy-wheel printer. 512K RAM, Spellchecker and Mail merge. Was £379.99 inc. VAT, £340.00 ex. VAT.

**AMSTRAD**  
Micro Laptop word processor. 1280K memory. Was £379.99 inc. VAT, £340.00 ex. VAT.

### PRICE CRASH ON BUBBLEJET PRINTER

**CANON BJ200 BUBBLEJET**

- Superb ultra-compact desktop printer
- Prints at up to 240 characters per second (draft) and 170 characters per second (high quality)
- Built-in 80 page sheet feeder
- Includes 12 months on-site service.

Was £329.99 inc. VAT, £280.84 ex. VAT.

**SAVE £60**

**SALE PRICE** **£269.99** inc. VAT **£229.78** ex. VAT

### PRICE CRASH ON PCs

**ADVENT 4255 486SX PC**  
25 MHz processor, large 170Mb hard drive and 4Mb RAM, 14" colour monitor and 512K Video RAM. Includes 12 months on-site service. Was £939.99 inc. VAT, £799.99 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£899.99** inc. VAT **£765.95** ex. VAT

**APPLE**  
MACINTOSH PERFORMA 450 PC. Includes Color Works Software. Was £899.99 inc. VAT, £765.95 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£869.99** inc. VAT **£740.00** ex. VAT

**APPLE**  
MACINTOSH PERFORMA 450 PC PLUS APPLE STYLEWRITER 2 printer. Complete student PC pack. Was £999.99 inc. VAT, £851.66 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£949.99** inc. VAT **£808.00** ex. VAT

**COMPAQ**  
PRESARIO 450 PC. 25MHz Intel 486SX processor. Was £936.16 inc. VAT, £799.99 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£899.99** inc. VAT **£765.95** ex. VAT

**SAMSUNG**  
SP800 FAX/PHONE. Memory compatible. For Phone mode. Was £349.99 inc. VAT, £299.99 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£329.99** inc. VAT **£280.00** ex. VAT

**ORION**  
528 FAX/PHONE. Memory compatible. For Phone mode. Was £449.99 inc. VAT, £399.99 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£399.99** inc. VAT **£340.00** ex. VAT

### SAVE UP TO £100 ON PRINTERS

**HEWLETT-PACKARD 550C DESKJET**  
Includes 12 months on-site service. Was £599.99 inc. VAT, £510.63 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£499.99** inc. VAT **£425.52** ex. VAT

**SEIKOSHA**  
SPRINT 9 PIN DOT MATRIX PRINTER. Includes 12 months on-site service. Was £139.99 inc. VAT, £109.99 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£109.99** inc. VAT **£99.99** ex. VAT

**HEWLETT-PACKARD**  
DESKJET PORTABLE. Includes 12 months on-site service. Was £199.99 inc. VAT, £179.99 ex. VAT.

**SALE PRICE** **£179.99** inc. VAT **£153.00** ex. VAT

### HALF PRICE SOFTWARE

**COMANCHE MAXIMUM OVERDRIVE** Was £45.00 inc. VAT, £39.99 ex. VAT. **SALE PRICE** **£22.99** inc. VAT, £19.99 ex. VAT

**X-WING** Was £45.00 inc. VAT, £39.99 ex. VAT. **SALE PRICE** **£22.99** inc. VAT, £19.99 ex. VAT

**WORDSTAR FOR WINDOWS** Was £29.99 inc. VAT, £24.99 ex. VAT. **SALE PRICE** **£15.00** inc. VAT, £12.99 ex. VAT

**STAR TREK 2** Was £29.99 inc. VAT, £24.99 ex. VAT. **SALE PRICE** **£15.00** inc. VAT, £12.99 ex. VAT

**TYX TACTICAL FRONTIER EXPERIMENT** Was £29.99 inc. VAT, £24.99 ex. VAT. **SALE PRICE** **£15.00** inc. VAT, £12.99 ex. VAT

**QUICKEN** ADDING FOR WINDOWS Was £29.99 inc. VAT, £24.99 ex. VAT. **SALE PRICE** **£15.00** inc. VAT, £12.99 ex. VAT

**LOTUS** 1-2-3 RELEASE 4 Was £35.00 inc. VAT, £29.99 ex. VAT. **SALE PRICE** **£14.99** inc. VAT, £12.99 ex. VAT

## Dixons

### SALE-NOW ON

AROUND 360 BRANCHES NATIONWIDE. CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL STORE FOR OPENING TIMES

**LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED**

We will refund the difference on the spot, if you can find the same product, with the same offer, cheaper locally, just come back to us within 7 days of purchase, with the details. The product must be new, complete and available for immediate delivery. The guarantee excludes mail order prices/offers.

Some products available in selected stores only. Check local store for availability.

## Tory hails long-term recovery

By Arthur Leathley, Political Correspondent

BRITAIN'S economic recovery is "well under way" and will continue as a result of measures announced in last month's Budget, the Government said yesterday.

Stephen Dorrell, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said Kenneth Clarke's first Budget had helped to put national finances "on a secure long-term footing", particularly by eliminating borrowing by 1997-98. Mr Dorrell attacked Labour and Liberal Democrat policies, which he claimed ignored the need to keep down taxes and inflation and reduce unemployment and government borrowing.

"Inflation has been below 2 per cent throughout the year, the first time that has happened since 1979. Unemployment, which Labour claimed in March would rise and rise, has fallen by 176,400 since the start of the year."

"The gross domestic product has been growing for six consecutive quarters. The recovery is firmly established," he said.

Mr Dorrell launched a Conservative research department pamphlet that pointed to improved fortunes after the revenue increases and public spending reductions contained in the Budget showed through.

## 'Golliwog' teacher wins case

By a Staff Reporter

A LIVERPOOL teacher accused of calling a black pupil "golliwog" has won his case for unfair dismissal.

James Evans, a chemistry teacher, was sacked for gross misconduct earlier this year after allegations that he insulted a 15-year-old girl.

The tribunal called to hear his case in June submitted its written decision over the Christmas period.

It was told that seven of the 21 pupils in Mr Evans's class had heard him make the remark but were divided whether he had said "Golliwog" or "Wog".

One girl said that Mr Evans had stumbled in pronouncing her classmate's name when calling the register and had said: "Never mind, we'll just have to call her golliwog."

It was alleged that the teacher then smirked, expecting the class to laugh. But Mr Evans was reported to the headmaster by the pupil involved, who cannot be named, and was subsequently sacked.

In his defence, Mr Evans said that he had simply mispronounced the name and that the class had "gaspied" when he got it wrong.

Mr Evans also said that Peter Barnes, head teacher of Gateacre Comprehensive School, had deliberately "set out" to sack him.

## Mentally ill put on danger lists

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

REGISTERS of mentally ill people who may turn violent are to be drawn up as part of government attempts to reassure the public about its policy of discharging patients from psychiatric hospitals.

At least 3,000 people will go on the lists, which will enable doctors, nurses and carers to know where a person is living and the type of treatment he should receive.

Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, will today unveil detailed proposals aimed at giving greater protection to the public and the mentally ill after violent and tragic incidents involving psychiatric hospital patients.

Hospitals and community mental health trusts will have to produce "at risk" registers of severely mentally ill people who may turn violent and harm others or themselves. The registers will have to be completed by April.

Mrs Bottomley is also to issue new guidance to doctors and social workers on the discharge of psychiatric patients. "It is vital not to lose touch with seriously mentally ill people living in the community," she said. "To do that, it is vital to have up to date, accurate lists of those at risk."

Mrs Bottomley said the challenge was to find the type of effective monitoring system within the community that occurs within psychiatric hospitals. She will also announce that the mental illness grant for local authorities is to be extended for a further three years to help them to cope with the effects of care in the community. Local authorities will get £36 million next year.

Mrs Bottomley's announcement is the health department's latest effort to answer criticism of its community care policy. Anxiety about it and the closure of psychiatric hospitals has been heightened by cases involving the mentally ill. A year ago Ben Silcock, a schizophrenic, jumped into the lions' den at London zoo, and Christopher Clunis, 19, a paranoid schizophrenic, stabbed a man to death.

The plan for a register was welcomed by Sane, the mental health charity, but it said that unless there was a halt to the closure of psychiatric hospitals there would be no point putting people on a register. Marjorie Wallace, of the charity, said: "The real need is for beds to put people in when they are ill."

She said that too many mentally ill people who were discharged after a few hours' treatment in hospital were turned away because they are told there are no beds because hospitals have closed.

## How bleak their valley

By Michael Horn

THE picture of a bleak, desolate valley, with a few scattered houses and a few people, is a stark contrast to the lush, green hills of the Lake District. This is the story of a valley that has been abandoned by its people, and the impact it has on the community.

Stress, a result of unemployment and the loss of a sense of community, is a major factor in the decline of the valley. Many people have moved away, leaving behind a desolate landscape. The few people who remain are often struggling to make a living, and the community is in a state of decline.

The valley is a place of great beauty, but it is also a place of great hardship. The people who live there are often facing a bleak future, and the valley is a place where the past is being forgotten. The valley is a place where the future is uncertain, and the people who live there are often feeling a sense of despair.

The valley is a place where the past is being forgotten, and the future is uncertain. The people who live there are often feeling a sense of despair, and the valley is a place where the future is uncertain. The valley is a place where the past is being forgotten, and the future is uncertain.



Duke of Westminster to chair conference

مكتبة من الأصل



حكايا من الامم

## Sales rush takes off as crush barriers make a comeback

By Robin Young

TRAFFIC cones reappeared down the centre of Regent Street in the West End of London yesterday as police tried to regulate the nation's urge to spend, spend, spend in the post-Christmas sales.

Crush barriers lined the pavements and traffic wardens with megaphones beseeched teeming shoppers to show some consideration for cars and buses.

Crowds, however, thronged less thickly than on the first day of previous years' winter sales, partly because yesterday was Boxing Day and because some leading stores had postponed their reopening until today. The public also showed little impetuous haste in paring with its money.

"We have come early so that we can take a good look," a couple at the head of the queue outside Aquascutum said. "We know what we want, but it has got to be right."

A family from Essex shop-

ping in Selfridges said: "We are here to get each other Christmas presents. But it does not matter if we do not find anything today because there are plenty more sales coming up."

At Austin Reed, a man musing the purchase of a £799 Chester Barrie suit reduced to £495 was turned back by a salesman as he made for the fitting rooms. "These are for made-to-measure customers only. Yours are over there," the salesman said, pointing to a crowded corner with a queue.

"In that case you can stuff your ruddy suit," the customer said, dropping it at the assistant's feet and walking out.

In Jaeger, a woman fingered a price ticket showing a reduction of £50 from an original price of £690 said: "What is the point? I call that really mean."

In the Oxford Circus branch of Bally, customer discontent was equally evident. "I

wouldn't kick the cat in any of these," a man scornfully informed his wife as he surveyed with distaste a rack of bargain size 10½ shoes.

"With savings accounts showing so little interest, we thought the time had come to move out of money and into overcoats," said a woman in Burberry's. "As it happens, though, they haven't got the colour we wanted so the building society can breathe again."

At Selfridges, managers expected at least 125,000 customers to go through the store before it closed at 8pm, but the star item in the sale, a £65,340 diamond and sapphire cluster reduced to £32,670, attracted virtually no early interest. Bargain hunters were intent on making up dinner services in the china department.

In Gloucester's biggest store, the first rush was to buy Christmas decorations. Barry Wheeler, manager of Debenhams, said: "There was a very



The biggest bargain at Selfridges is this diamond cluster ring, reduced from £65,340 to £32,670, but so far there has not been much interest

brisk trade in our Christmas lines such as fairy lights, decorations and cards, because they were reduced by 60 per cent."

Hayley Woolfs, manager of the Tie Rack store in Gloucester, said: "People are coming in, but they're only buying the very cheap items."

By midday, there was a three-mile tailback on the A1(M) leading to the Metrocentre, Gateshead, and overflow car parks were opened. Ron Woodman, the marketing manager, said: "There has been an astonishing response

to the start of the sales. Shoppers couldn't wait to get hold of half-price Christmas cards."

In the local Marks & Spencer, staff had prepared a special area ten times the normal size for customers bringing back unwanted presents. The manager said: "The biggest rush is for the refunds department."

## Sun seekers flock to travel agents

By Harvey Elliott, Travel Correspondent

THE temptation to book next summer's holidays was successfully resisted by millions of Boxing Day shoppers yesterday, despite the biggest promotional drive yet undertaken by tour operators and travel agents.

After being bombarded with advertisements for discounts of 11 per cent across the board and up to 15 per cent on many cruise holidays, bargain hunters packed travel agencies from mid-morning. Most, however, were cannily looking for brochures to take away and study overnight rather than making a firm booking for next summer. Prices rise next week.

Nonetheless, many thousands did go ahead and book their favourite hotel at peak time while they still had the chance to guarantee their first choice. Lunn Poly, Britain's biggest travel agency chain, estimated that, when all the returns from around the country were counted, it would have sold 20,000 holidays yesterday compared with 12,000 on the first Monday after Christmas last year.

"Some of our shops, such as that in Meadowhall outside Sheffield, were packed and took a great many bookings. Others were not so busy."

A spokesman for Thomas Cook said that bookings were "brisk" without being record breaking. The brochures were being picked up "like there is

no tomorrow. Long-haul destinations, such as the Caribbean and Canada, appear to be selling very well, very quickly. In the traditional short-haul market, though, the top three are Spain, Spain and Spain."

Going Places, the newly formed amalgamation of Pickfords and Hogg Robinson that is now the second largest travel retailer, also reported patchy results.

"In shopping malls or big towns — especially Croydon and Leamington Spa — where other shops are open we have done extremely well," said Kevin Welch, Going Places' marketing director. "It can only get better as the week goes on."

The average price being paid for a summer holiday yesterday was about £360.

The price war has been caused by a determination among the leaders to retain their market share. Lunn Poly, Thomas Cook, Thomas Cook and AT Mays have, as a result, virtually given away their profit margin in the post-Christmas "sale", causing concern among smaller independent travel agents who cannot afford to do so.

Airports had their busiest day of the winter period as tens of thousands of skiers headed for the pistes. Most will return in a week's time and the working life of rail-lions will not revert to normal until Tuesday, January 4.

## How bleak is their valley

By Michael Hornsby

THE Samaritans, who for 40 years have provided a sympathetic ear for people at the end of their tether, will be opening a branch early next year in the Welsh hills.

Stress in such surroundings might seem hard to understand but the rate of suicide among hill farmers is causing growing concern. In bleak mid-winter, the loneliness of their work can turn into profound depression. Sue Flower, South Wales regional representation for the Samaritans, decided to open the new branch after calling a meeting in Powys County Hall to discuss farmers' difficulties. She was astonished by the number of people who turned up. "In

remote hill communities, many small farmers are under pressure and do not have close neighbours in whom they feel able to confide," she said. "They tend to bottle things up and then take drastic measures." She hopes the new branch will be operating by next spring, based at Llan-drindod Wells, Powys. One of her keenest supporters is the Rev Gethin Rhys, a United Reform

Church clergyman who ministers to a largely rural flock in the Brecon region. He has presided over the funerals of three farmers who died by their own hand in the past two years.

"This is a high number of suicides for a sparsely populated area. Isolation and loneliness are the key factors. Most recent years have also been poor ones economically for hill farmers, and now the government has cut their support

just when incomes were starting to look up", he said. Life in the hills has always been hard. As farmers have shed the one or two workers they might once have employed to cut their costs, the sense of isolation has increased. It is not uncommon for a bachelor farmer in the remoter parts of Wales to spend a week without seeing anyone apart from the postman.

The Duke of Westminster, one of the biggest landowners, is to chair a conference on rural morale next March at at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. Gillian Shepherd, the agriculture minister, will deliver the keynote address.



Duke of Westminster to chair conference

# MOST DIESELS SAVE YOU MONEY. FIAT DIESELS ACTUALLY MAKE YOU RICHER.



£300 CASH BACK AND 0% APR\* ON ALL FIAT DIESELS.

How much more economical can diesels get? They're already less thirsty than petrol engines. And they depreciate more slowly.

A Fiat diesel however, saves you money before you even drive it out of the showroom.

For a limited period, we'll offer you 0% APR finance and £300 back when you buy one.

Like all Fiats, our diesels come with an excellent warranty package

and a year's free Fiat AA Assurance membership<sup>1</sup>.

The range comprises the Uno diesel and Tipo and Tempra turbo diesels. Each as refined as our petrol models, and just as fun to drive.

Prices start at just £7695 for the Uno 60DS<sup>2</sup>.

For more information about our diesels call 0800 71 7000 or visit your Fiat dealer. He'll give you 300 good reasons to buy one.

DESIGNED FOR LIFE **FIAT**

STYLING

\*FINANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERY TO LEASER, NUMBER PLATES AND PROTECTIVE ROAD FUND EXCEPT PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. SPECIAL FINANCING OFFERS (FINANCE) FOR THOSE BUYING THROUGH FINANCING. FINANCE OFFERS ONLY AND £300 CASH BACK APPLIES TO NEW FIAT DIESELS PURCHASED AND REGISTERED BEFORE 31/12/93. OFFER LOCUS LIMITED (FINANCING) OFFERS FINANCING FOR VEHICLE PURCHASE. FINANCING OFFERS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. CREDIT PROVIDED BY THE MOTOR FINANCE COMPANY. FINANCING OFFER 1 FINANCING OFFER 2 FINANCING OFFER 3 FINANCING OFFER 4 FINANCING OFFER 5 FINANCING OFFER 6 FINANCING OFFER 7 FINANCING OFFER 8 FINANCING OFFER 9 FINANCING OFFER 10 FINANCING OFFER 11 FINANCING OFFER 12 FINANCING OFFER 13 FINANCING OFFER 14 FINANCING OFFER 15 FINANCING OFFER 16 FINANCING OFFER 17 FINANCING OFFER 18 FINANCING OFFER 19 FINANCING OFFER 20 FINANCING OFFER 21 FINANCING OFFER 22 FINANCING OFFER 23 FINANCING OFFER 24 FINANCING OFFER 25 FINANCING OFFER 26 FINANCING OFFER 27 FINANCING OFFER 28 FINANCING OFFER 29 FINANCING OFFER 30 FINANCING OFFER 31 FINANCING OFFER 32 FINANCING OFFER 33 FINANCING OFFER 34 FINANCING OFFER 35 FINANCING OFFER 36 FINANCING OFFER 37 FINANCING OFFER 38 FINANCING OFFER 39 FINANCING OFFER 40 FINANCING OFFER 41 FINANCING OFFER 42 FINANCING OFFER 43 FINANCING OFFER 44 FINANCING OFFER 45 FINANCING OFFER 46 FINANCING OFFER 47 FINANCING OFFER 48 FINANCING OFFER 49 FINANCING OFFER 50 FINANCING OFFER 51 FINANCING OFFER 52 FINANCING OFFER 53 FINANCING OFFER 54 FINANCING OFFER 55 FINANCING OFFER 56 FINANCING OFFER 57 FINANCING OFFER 58 FINANCING OFFER 59 FINANCING OFFER 60 FINANCING OFFER 61 FINANCING OFFER 62 FINANCING OFFER 63 FINANCING OFFER 64 FINANCING OFFER 65 FINANCING OFFER 66 FINANCING OFFER 67 FINANCING OFFER 68 FINANCING OFFER 69 FINANCING OFFER 70 FINANCING OFFER 71 FINANCING OFFER 72 FINANCING OFFER 73 FINANCING OFFER 74 FINANCING OFFER 75 FINANCING OFFER 76 FINANCING OFFER 77 FINANCING OFFER 78 FINANCING OFFER 79 FINANCING OFFER 80 FINANCING OFFER 81 FINANCING OFFER 82 FINANCING OFFER 83 FINANCING OFFER 84 FINANCING OFFER 85 FINANCING OFFER 86 FINANCING OFFER 87 FINANCING OFFER 88 FINANCING OFFER 89 FINANCING OFFER 90 FINANCING OFFER 91 FINANCING OFFER 92 FINANCING OFFER 93 FINANCING OFFER 94 FINANCING OFFER 95 FINANCING OFFER 96 FINANCING OFFER 97 FINANCING OFFER 98 FINANCING OFFER 99 FINANCING OFFER 100 FINANCING OFFER 101 FINANCING OFFER 102 FINANCING OFFER 103 FINANCING OFFER 104 FINANCING OFFER 105 FINANCING OFFER 106 FINANCING OFFER 107 FINANCING OFFER 108 FINANCING OFFER 109 FINANCING OFFER 110 FINANCING OFFER 111 FINANCING OFFER 112 FINANCING OFFER 113 FINANCING OFFER 114 FINANCING OFFER 115 FINANCING OFFER 116 FINANCING OFFER 117 FINANCING OFFER 118 FINANCING OFFER 119 FINANCING OFFER 120 FINANCING OFFER 121 FINANCING OFFER 122 FINANCING OFFER 123 FINANCING OFFER 124 FINANCING OFFER 125 FINANCING OFFER 126 FINANCING OFFER 127 FINANCING OFFER 128 FINANCING OFFER 129 FINANCING OFFER 130 FINANCING OFFER 131 FINANCING OFFER 132 FINANCING OFFER 133 FINANCING OFFER 134 FINANCING OFFER 135 FINANCING OFFER 136 FINANCING OFFER 137 FINANCING OFFER 138 FINANCING OFFER 139 FINANCING OFFER 140 FINANCING OFFER 141 FINANCING OFFER 142 FINANCING OFFER 143 FINANCING OFFER 144 FINANCING OFFER 145 FINANCING OFFER 146 FINANCING OFFER 147 FINANCING OFFER 148 FINANCING OFFER 149 FINANCING OFFER 150 FINANCING OFFER 151 FINANCING OFFER 152 FINANCING OFFER 153 FINANCING OFFER 154 FINANCING OFFER 155 FINANCING OFFER 156 FINANCING OFFER 157 FINANCING OFFER 158 FINANCING OFFER 159 FINANCING OFFER 160 FINANCING OFFER 161 FINANCING OFFER 162 FINANCING OFFER 163 FINANCING OFFER 164 FINANCING OFFER 165 FINANCING OFFER 166 FINANCING OFFER 167 FINANCING OFFER 168 FINANCING OFFER 169 FINANCING OFFER 170 FINANCING OFFER 171 FINANCING OFFER 172 FINANCING OFFER 173 FINANCING OFFER 174 FINANCING OFFER 175 FINANCING OFFER 176 FINANCING OFFER 177 FINANCING OFFER 178 FINANCING OFFER 179 FINANCING OFFER 180 FINANCING OFFER 181 FINANCING OFFER 182 FINANCING OFFER 183 FINANCING OFFER 184 FINANCING OFFER 185 FINANCING OFFER 186 FINANCING OFFER 187 FINANCING OFFER 188 FINANCING OFFER 189 FINANCING OFFER 190 FINANCING OFFER 191 FINANCING OFFER 192 FINANCING OFFER 193 FINANCING OFFER 194 FINANCING OFFER 195 FINANCING OFFER 196 FINANCING OFFER 197 FINANCING OFFER 198 FINANCING OFFER 199 FINANCING OFFER 200 FINANCING OFFER 201 FINANCING OFFER 202 FINANCING OFFER 203 FINANCING OFFER 204 FINANCING OFFER 205 FINANCING OFFER 206 FINANCING OFFER 207 FINANCING OFFER 208 FINANCING OFFER 209 FINANCING OFFER 210 FINANCING OFFER 211 FINANCING OFFER 212 FINANCING OFFER 213 FINANCING OFFER 214 FINANCING OFFER 215 FINANCING OFFER 216 FINANCING OFFER 217 FINANCING OFFER 218 FINANCING OFFER 219 FINANCING OFFER 220 FINANCING OFFER 221 FINANCING OFFER 222 FINANCING OFFER 223 FINANCING OFFER 224 FINANCING OFFER 225 FINANCING OFFER 226 FINANCING OFFER 227 FINANCING OFFER 228 FINANCING OFFER 229 FINANCING OFFER 230 FINANCING OFFER 231 FINANCING OFFER 232 FINANCING OFFER 233 FINANCING OFFER 234 FINANCING OFFER 235 FINANCING OFFER 236 FINANCING OFFER 237 FINANCING OFFER 238 FINANCING OFFER 239 FINANCING OFFER 240 FINANCING OFFER 241 FINANCING OFFER 242 FINANCING OFFER 243 FINANCING OFFER 244 FINANCING OFFER 245 FINANCING OFFER 246 FINANCING OFFER 247 FINANCING OFFER 248 FINANCING OFFER 249 FINANCING OFFER 250 FINANCING OFFER 251 FINANCING OFFER 252 FINANCING OFFER 253 FINANCING OFFER 254 FINANCING OFFER 255 FINANCING OFFER 256 FINANCING OFFER 257 FINANCING OFFER 258 FINANCING OFFER 259 FINANCING OFFER 260 FINANCING OFFER 261 FINANCING OFFER 262 FINANCING OFFER 263 FINANCING OFFER 264 FINANCING OFFER 265 FINANCING OFFER 266 FINANCING OFFER 267 FINANCING OFFER 268 FINANCING OFFER 269 FINANCING OFFER 270 FINANCING OFFER 271 FINANCING OFFER 272 FINANCING OFFER 273 FINANCING OFFER 274 FINANCING OFFER 275 FINANCING OFFER 276 FINANCING OFFER 277 FINANCING OFFER 278 FINANCING OFFER 279 FINANCING OFFER 280 FINANCING OFFER 281 FINANCING OFFER 282 FINANCING OFFER 283 FINANCING OFFER 284 FINANCING OFFER 285 FINANCING OFFER 286 FINANCING OFFER 287 FINANCING OFFER 288 FINANCING OFFER 289 FINANCING OFFER 290 FINANCING OFFER 291 FINANCING OFFER 292 FINANCING OFFER 293 FINANCING OFFER 294 FINANCING OFFER 295 FINANCING OFFER 296 FINANCING OFFER 297 FINANCING OFFER 298 FINANCING OFFER 299 FINANCING OFFER 300 FINANCING OFFER 301 FINANCING OFFER 302 FINANCING OFFER 303 FINANCING OFFER 304 FINANCING OFFER 305 FINANCING OFFER 306 FINANCING OFFER 307 FINANCING OFFER 308 FINANCING OFFER 309 FINANCING OFFER 310 FINANCING OFFER 311 FINANCING OFFER 312 FINANCING OFFER 313 FINANCING OFFER 314 FINANCING OFFER 315 FINANCING OFFER 316 FINANCING OFFER 317 FINANCING OFFER 318 FINANCING OFFER 319 FINANCING OFFER 320 FINANCING OFFER 321 FINANCING OFFER 322 FINANCING OFFER 323 FINANCING OFFER 324 FINANCING OFFER 325 FINANCING OFFER 326 FINANCING OFFER 327 FINANCING OFFER 328 FINANCING OFFER 329 FINANCING OFFER 330 FINANCING OFFER 331 FINANCING OFFER 332 FINANCING OFFER 333 FINANCING OFFER 334 FINANCING OFFER 335 FINANCING OFFER 336 FINANCING OFFER 337 FINANCING OFFER 338 FINANCING OFFER 339 FINANCING OFFER 340 FINANCING OFFER 341 FINANCING OFFER 342 FINANCING OFFER 343 FINANCING OFFER 344 FINANCING OFFER 345 FINANCING OFFER 346 FINANCING OFFER 347 FINANCING OFFER 348 FINANCING OFFER 349 FINANCING OFFER 350 FINANCING OFFER 351 FINANCING OFFER 352 FINANCING OFFER 353 FINANCING OFFER 354 FINANCING OFFER 355 FINANCING OFFER 356 FINANCING OFFER 357 FINANCING OFFER 358 FINANCING OFFER 359 FINANCING OFFER 360 FINANCING OFFER 361 FINANCING OFFER 362 FINANCING OFFER 363 FINANCING OFFER 364 FINANCING OFFER 365 FINANCING OFFER 366 FINANCING OFFER 367 FINANCING OFFER 368 FINANCING OFFER 369 FINANCING OFFER 370 FINANCING OFFER 371 FINANCING OFFER 372 FINANCING OFFER 373 FINANCING OFFER 374 FINANCING OFFER 375 FINANCING OFFER 376 FINANCING OFFER 377 FINANCING OFFER 378 FINANCING OFFER 379 FINANCING OFFER 380 FINANCING OFFER 381 FINANCING OFFER 382 FINANCING OFFER 383 FINANCING OFFER 384 FINANCING OFFER 385 FINANCING OFFER 386 FINANCING OFFER 387 FINANCING OFFER 388 FINANCING OFFER 389 FINANCING OFFER 390 FINANCING OFFER 391 FINANCING OFFER 392 FINANCING OFFER 393 FINANCING OFFER 394 FINANCING OFFER 395 FINANCING OFFER 396 FINANCING OFFER 397 FINANCING OFFER 398 FINANCING OFFER 399 FINANCING OFFER 400 FINANCING OFFER 401 FINANCING OFFER 402 FINANCING OFFER 403 FINANCING OFFER 404 FINANCING OFFER 405 FINANCING OFFER 406 FINANCING OFFER 407 FINANCING OFFER 408 FINANCING OFFER 409 FINANCING OFFER 410 FINANCING OFFER 411 FINANCING OFFER 412 FINANCING OFFER 413 FINANCING OFFER 414 FINANCING OFFER 415 FINANCING OFFER 416 FINANCING OFFER 417 FINANCING OFFER 418 FINANCING OFFER 419 FINANCING OFFER 420 FINANCING OFFER 421 FINANCING OFFER 422 FINANCING OFFER 423 FINANCING OFFER 424 FINANCING OFFER 425 FINANCING OFFER 426 FINANCING OFFER 427 FINANCING OFFER 428 FINANCING OFFER 429 FINANCING OFFER 430 FINANCING OFFER 431 FINANCING OFFER 432 FINANCING OFFER 433 FINANCING OFFER 434 FINANCING OFFER 435 FINANCING OFFER 436 FINANCING OFFER 437 FINANCING OFFER 438 FINANCING OFFER 439 FINANCING OFFER 440 FINANCING OFFER 441 FINANCING OFFER 442 FINANCING OFFER 443 FINANCING OFFER 444 FINANCING OFFER 445 FINANCING OFFER 446 FINANCING OFFER 447 FINANCING OFFER 448 FINANCING OFFER 449 FINANCING OFFER 450 FINANCING OFFER 451 FINANCING OFFER 452 FINANCING OFFER 453 FINANCING OFFER 454 FINANCING OFFER 455 FINANCING OFFER 456 FINANCING OFFER 457 FINANCING OFFER 458 FINANCING OFFER 459 FINANCING OFFER 460 FINANCING OFFER 461 FINANCING OFFER 462 FINANCING OFFER 463 FINANCING OFFER 464 FINANCING OFFER 465 FINANCING OFFER 466 FINANCING OFFER 467 FINANCING OFFER 468 FINANCING OFFER 469 FINANCING OFFER 470 FINANCING OFFER 471 FINANCING OFFER 472 FINANCING OFFER 473 FINANCING OFFER 474 FINANCING OFFER 475 FINANCING OFFER 476 FINANCING OFFER 477 FINANCING OFFER 478 FINANCING OFFER 479 FINANCING OFFER 480 FINANCING OFFER 481 FINANCING OFFER 482 FINANCING OFFER 483 FINANCING OFFER 484 FINANCING OFFER 485 FINANCING OFFER 486 FINANCING OFFER 487 FINANCING OFFER 488 FINANCING OFFER 489 FINANCING OFFER 490 FINANCING OFFER 491 FINANCING OFFER 492 FINANCING OFFER 493 FINANCING OFFER 494 FINANCING OFFER 495 FINANCING OFFER 496 FINANCING OFFER 497 FINANCING OFFER 498 FINANCING OFFER 499 FINANCING OFFER 500 FINANCING OFFER 501 FINANCING OFFER 502 FINANCING OFFER 503 FINANCING OFFER 504 FINANCING OFFER 505 FINANCING OFFER 506 FINANCING OFFER 507 FINANCING OFFER 508 FINANCING OFFER 509 FINANCING OFFER 510 FINANCING OFFER 511 FINANCING OFFER 512 FINANCING OFFER 513 FINANCING OFFER 514 FINANCING OFFER 515 FINANCING OFFER 516 FINANCING OFFER 517 FINANCING OFFER 518 FINANCING OFFER 519 FINANCING OFFER 520 FINANCING OFFER 521 FINANCING OFFER 522 FINANCING OFFER 523 FINANCING OFFER 524 FINANCING OFFER 525 FINANCING OFFER 526 FINANCING OFFER 527 FINANCING OFFER 528 FINANCING OFFER 529 FINANCING OFFER 530 FINANCING OFFER 531 FINANCING OFFER 532 FINANCING OFFER 533 FINANCING OFFER 534 FINANCING OFFER 535 FINANCING OFFER 536 FINANCING OFFER 537 FINANCING OFFER 538 FINANCING OFFER 539 FINANCING OFFER 540 FINANCING OFFER 541 FINANCING OFFER 542 FINANCING OFFER 543 FINANCING OFFER 544 FINANCING OFFER 545 FINANCING OFFER 546 FINANCING OFFER 547 FINANCING OFFER 548 FINANCING OFFER 549 FINANCING OFFER 550 FINANCING OFFER 551 FINANCING OFFER 552 FINANCING OFFER 553 FINANCING OFFER 554 FINANCING OFFER 555 FINANCING OFFER 556 FINANCING OFFER 557 FINANCING OFFER 558 FINANCING OFFER 559 FINANCING OFFER 560 FINANCING OFFER 561 FINANCING OFFER 562 FINANCING OFFER 563 FINANCING OFFER 564 FINANCING OFFER 565 FINANCING OFFER 566 FINANCING OFFER 567 FINANCING OFFER 568 FINANCING OFFER 569 FINANCING OFFER 570 FINANCING OFFER 571 FINANCING OFFER 572 FINANCING OFFER 573 FINANCING OFFER 574 FINANCING OFFER 575 FINANCING OFFER 576 FINANCING OFFER 577 FINANCING OFFER 578 FINANCING OFFER 579 FINANCING OFFER 580 FINANCING OFFER 581 FINANCING OFFER 582 FINANCING OFFER 583 FINANCING OFFER 584 FINANCING OFFER 585 FINANCING OFFER 586 FINANCING OFFER 587 FINANCING OFFER 588 FINANCING OFFER 589 FINANCING OFFER 590 FINANCING OFFER 591 FINANCING OFFER 592 FINANCING OFFER 593 FINANCING OFFER 594 FINANCING OFFER 595 FINANCING OFFER 596 FINANCING OFFER 597 FINANCING OFFER 598 FINANCING OFFER 599 FINANCING OFFER 600 FINANCING OFFER 601 FINANCING OFFER 602 FINANCING OFFER 603 FINANCING OFFER 604 FINANCING OFFER 605 FINANCING OFFER 606 FINANCING OFFER 607 FINANCING OFFER 608 FINANCING OFFER 609 FINANCING OFFER 610 FINANCING OFFER 611 FINANCING OFFER 612 FINANCING OFFER 613 FINANCING OFFER 614 FINANCING OFFER 615 FINANCING OFFER 616 FINANCING OFFER 617 FINANCING OFFER 618 FINANCING OFFER 619 FINANCING OFFER 620 FINANCING OFFER 621 FINANCING OFFER 622 FINANCING OFFER 623 FINANCING OFFER 624 FINANCING OFFER 625 FINANCING OFFER 626 FINANCING OFFER 627 FINANCING OFFER 628 FINANCING OFFER 629 FINANCING OFFER 630 FINANCING OFFER 631 FINANCING OFFER 632 FINANCING OFFER 633 FINANCING OFFER 634 FINANCING OFFER 635 FINANCING OFFER 636 FINANCING OFFER 637 FINANCING OFFER 638 FINANCING OFFER 639 FINANCING OFFER 640 FINANCING OFFER 641 FINANCING OFFER 642 FINANCING OFFER 643 FINANCING OFFER 644 FINANCING OFFER 645 FINANCING OFFER 646 FINANCING OFFER 647 FINANCING OFFER 648 FINANCING OFFER 649 FINANCING OFFER 650 FINANCING OFFER 651 FINANCING OFFER 652 FINANCING OFFER 653 FINANCING OFFER 654 FINANCING OFFER 655 FINANCING OFFER 656 FINANCING OFFER 657 FINANCING OFFER 658 FINANCING OFFER 659 FINANCING OFFER 660 FINANCING OFFER 661 FINANCING OFFER 662 FINANCING OFFER 663 FINANCING OFFER 664 FINANCING OFFER 665 FINANCING OFFER 666 FINANCING OFFER 667 FINANCING OFFER 668 FINANCING OFFER 669 FINANCING OFFER 670 FINANCING OFFER 671 FINANCING OFFER 672 FINANCING OFFER 673 FINANCING OFFER 674 FINANCING OFFER 675 FINANCING OFFER 676 FINANCING OFFER 677 FINANCING OFFER 678 FINANCING OFFER 679 FINANCING OFFER 680 FINANCING OFFER 681 FINANCING OFFER 682 FINANCING OFFER 683 FINANCING OFFER 684 FINANCING OFFER 685 FINANCING OFFER 686 FINANCING OFFER 687 FINANCING OFFER 688 FINANCING OFFER 689 FINANCING OFFER 690 FINANCING OFFER 691 FINANCING OFFER 692 FINANCING OFFER 693 FINANCING OFFER 694 FINANCING OFFER 695 FINANCING OFFER 696 FINANCING OFFER 697 FINANCING OFFER 698 FINANCING OFFER 699 FINANCING OFFER 700 FINANCING OFFER 701 FINANCING OFFER 702 FINANCING OFFER 703 FINANCING OFFER 704 FINANCING OFFER 705 FINANCING OFFER 706 FINANCING OFFER 707 FINANCING OFFER 708 FINANCING OFFER 709 FINANCING OFFER 710 FINANCING OFFER 711 FINANCING OFFER 712 FINANCING OFFER 713 FINANCING OFFER 714 FINANCING OFFER 715 FINANCING OFFER 716 FINANCING OFFER 717 FINANCING OFFER 718 FINANCING OFFER 719 FINANCING OFFER 720 FINANCING OFFER 721 FINANCING OFFER 722 FINANCING OFFER 723 FINANCING OFFER 724 FINANCING OFFER 725 FINANCING OFFER 726 FINANCING OFFER 727 FINANCING OFFER 728 FINANCING OFFER 729 FINANCING OFFER 730 FINANCING OFFER 731 FINANCING OFFER 732 FINANCING OFFER 733 FINANCING OFFER 734 FINANCING OFFER 735 FINANCING OFFER 736 FINANCING OFFER 737 FINANCING OFFER 738 FINANCING OFFER 739 FINANCING OFFER 740 FINANCING OFFER 741 FINANCING OFFER 742 FINANCING OFFER 743 FINANCING OFFER 744 FINANCING OFFER 745 FINANCING OFFER 746 FINANCING OFFER 747 FINANCING OFFER 748 FINANCING OFFER 749 FINANCING OFFER 750 FINANCING OFFER 751 FINANCING OFFER 752 FINANCING OFFER 753 FINANCING OFFER 754 FINANCING OFFER 755 FINANCING OFFER 756 FINANCING OFFER 757 FINANCING OFFER 758 FINANCING OFFER 759 FINANCING OFFER 760 FINANCING OFFER 761 FINANCING OFFER 762 FINANCING OFFER 763 FINANCING OFFER 764 FINANCING OFFER 765 FINANCING OFFER 766 FINANCING OFFER 767 FINANCING OFFER 768 FINANCING OFFER 769 FINANCING OFFER 770 FINANCING OFFER 771 FINANCING OFFER 772 FINANCING OFFER 773 FINANCING OFFER 774 FINANCING OFFER 775 FINANCING OFFER 776 FINANCING OFFER 777 FINANCING OFFER 778 FINANCING OFFER 779 FINANCING OFFER 780 FINANCING OFFER 781 FINANCING OFFER 782 FINANCING OFFER 783 FINANCING OFFER 784 FINANCING OFFER 785 FINANCING OFFER 786 FINANCING OFFER 787 FINANCING OFFER 788 FINANCING OFFER 789 FINANCING OFFER 790 FINANCING OFFER 791 FINANCING OFFER 792 FINANCING OFFER 793 FINANCING OFFER 794 FINANCING OFFER 795 FINANCING OFFER 796 FINANCING OFFER 797 FINANCING OFFER 798 FINANCING OFFER 799 FINANCING OFFER 800 FINANCING OFFER 801 FINANCING OFFER 802 FINANCING OFFER 803 FINANCING OFFER 804 FINANCING OFFER 805 FINANCING OFFER 806 FINANCING OFFER 807 FINANCING OFFER 808 FINANCING OFFER 809 FINANCING OFFER 810 FINANCING OFFER 811 FINANCING OFFER 812 FINANCING OFFER 813 FINANCING OFFER 814 FINANCING OFFER 815 FINANCING OFFER 816 FINANCING OFFER 817 FINANCING OFFER 818 FINANCING OFFER 819 FINANCING OFFER 820 FINANCING OFFER 821 FINANCING OFFER 822 FINANCING OFFER 823 FINANCING OFFER 824 FINANCING OFFER 825 FINANCING OFFER 826 FINANCING OFFER 827 FINANCING OFFER 828 FINANCING OFFER 829 FINANCING OFFER 830 FINANCING OFFER 831 FINANCING OFFER 832 FINANCING OFFER 833 FINANCING OFFER 834 FINANCING OFFER 835 FINANCING OFFER 836 FINANCING OFFER 837 FINANCING OFFER 838 FINANCING OFFER 839 FINANCING OFFER 840 FINANCING OFFER 841 FINANCING OFFER 842 FINANCING OFFER 843 FINANCING OFFER 844 FINANCING OFFER 845 FINANCING OFFER 846 FINANCING OFFER 847 FINANCING OFFER 848 FINANCING OFFER 849 FINANCING OFFER 850 FINANCING OFFER 851 FINANCING OFFER 852 FINANCING OFFER 853 FINANCING OFFER 854 FINANCING OFFER 855 FINANCING OFFER 856 FINANCING OFFER 857 FINANCING OFFER 858 FINANCING OFFER 859 FINANCING OFFER 860 FINANCING OFFER 861 FINANCING OFFER 862 FINANCING OFFER 863 FINANCING OFFER 864 FINANCING OFFER 865 FINANCING OFFER 866 FINANCING OFFER 867 FINANCING OFFER 868 FINANCING OFFER 869 FINANCING OFFER 870 FINANCING OFFER 871 FINANCING OFFER 872 FINANCING OFFER 873 FINANCING OFFER 874 FINANCING OFFER 875 FINANCING OFFER 876 FINANCING OFFER 877 FINANCING OFFER 878 FINANCING OFFER 879 FINANCING OFFER 880 FINANCING OFFER 881 FINANCING OFFER 882 FINANCING OFFER 883 FINANCING OFFER 884 FINANCING OFFER 885 FINANCING OFFER 886 FINANCING OFFER 887 FINANCING OFFER 888 FINANCING OFFER 889 FINANCING OFFER 890 FINANCING OFFER 891 FINANCING OFFER 892 FINANCING OFFER 893 FINANCING OFFER 894 FINANCING OFFER 895 FINANCING OFFER 896 FINANCING OFFER 897 FINANCING OFFER 898 FINANCING OFFER 899 FINANCING OFFER 900 FINANCING



## Scrawl on soundboard links early instrument to the greatest musical dynasty

## Sale uncovers £200 piano signed by son of Bach

BY JIM MCCUE

A PIANO signed by the composer Johann Christian Bach, one of the earliest champions of piano music, has been discovered after being sold in a provincial sale for about £200.

It is the only known instrument definitely associated with the greatest of musical dynasties, and might have been played by Mozart.

The connection with J.C. Bach, the youngest son of Johann Sebastian and the second most important musician in the family, was uncovered when an inscription on the soundboard was recognised as the composer's signature.

This has been authenticated by Dr Stephen Roe, who heads the manuscript department of Sotheby's and is a leading expert on J.C. Bach. The tiny writing runs across a crack, which would have made forgery almost impossible.

The instrument has been acquired by the Cobbe Foundation in Surrey, which aims to preserve antique keyboard instruments for playing. It also promotes awareness of the sounds the composers heard.

The Bach pianoforte joins instruments owned or played by Purcell, Chopin, Elgar, Mahler and Marie Antoinette, which are also in the collection housed at Hatchlands near Guildford, Surrey.

The piano dates from the 1770s and was almost certainly built by Johannes Zumppe, thought to be the first English piano-maker.

Although the nameboard is missing, Alec Cobbe, director of the foundation, says the instrument can be attributed with near perfect certainty to Zumppe.

J.C. Bach, known as the English Bach, is believed to have given his first public solo piano recital in Britain in 1768. His sonatas op. 5 (1766) were

the first British music to bear the words "piano forte" on the title page, and three of them were later arranged as concertos by his friend Mozart.

Europe's square pianos pre-date English grands and would have been used at recitals.

The instrument authenticated yesterday requires repairs, which are to be funded by Sarasin Investment Management.

The Cobbe Foundation is also planning a concert on the instrument in the spring.

Judging from a 1769 Zumppe also in the Cobbe collection, the sound will be unlike that of a modern piano. It will be much softer and akin to that of a clavichord.

The discovery is important to scholars and musicians tracing the gradual eclipse of the harpsichord by the piano, with its additional expressive capabilities.

J.C. Bach, who most resembled his father, was given three of the family harpsichords by him. Johann Sebastian also apparently wrote Book II of *The Well-Tempered Clavier* for his son's musical education.

J.C. Bach settled in London in 1762 when he was 27 and took up the post of composer to the London Italian opera, replacing Cechi.

For the next 20 years until his death, he was the most important figure in British musical life, though his music

was able to charge large sums for tuition, and was in considerable demand as a pianist, although he died in debt.

He appeared ten times on the London concert platform in May 1786 alone.

With the composer Karl Friedrich Abel, who had also been taught by J.S. Bach, he organised the Bach-Abel subscription concerts that have been described as the Proms of the day and at which Haydn's



Alec Cobbe, director of the Cobbe Foundation, examines the piano that carries J.C. Bach's signature and may have been played by Mozart

symphonies were first heard in London. The concert continued until 1781.

When Mozart was brought to London in 1764 by his father, they stayed with Bach and Abel, and the eight-year-old played a sonata with Bach.

Mozart was much influenced by Bach, and was delighted when they met again in Paris in 1778: "I love him (as you know) and respect him with all my heart."

If this piano is associated with Bach's visit to France in that year, it is likely that Mozart played on it. At present, however, nothing is known about its movements.

Bach died on January 1, 1782, and was buried at St Pancras, London.

He was mourned by Mozart as "a loss to the musical world".

Why Bach signed the piano remains uncertain. He is known to have chosen Zumppe instruments for friends (including Diderot), and there is a record of a payment of £50 from Bach to the maker in 1768.

Alternatively, he may have been marking his own.

In either case, says Mr Cobbe, the tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

"As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality."

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.

As you would expect, composers pick the finest instruments they can find. To hear the sound of an instrument selected by a composer of Bach's stature in the 18th century is an unbelievable rarity and privilege. The tone when it is repaired is likely to be of remarkable quality.



A portrait of J.C. Bach painted by Gainsborough

Arts, pages 27, 28

## Twitchers fly north hot-foot

BY ROBIN YOUNG

ABOUT 30 bird spotters are to pay £100 each in the hope of adding an Arctic vagrant to their lists of birds seen in the United Kingdom. The twitchers are taking a chartered flight from Aberdeen to Grimster, Shetland, today in pursuit of an ivory gull, which usually winters at the edge of the Arctic pack ice.

Other rare birds exciting twitchers include a red-breasted goose, which the Bird Information Service reported as a new arrival yesterday at Shell Ness at the eastern end of the Isle of Sheppey, Kent. This bird is thought to have strayed more than 1,500 miles off course.

A more regular, but still uncommon, wanderer from



Ivory gull: usually an Arctic resident

the Arctic is a rough-legged buzzard lingering near Cairnburgh Castle, southeast of Fraserburgh, Grampian, while a little bunting, which ought to be in Southeast Asia, has been reported on the Orkney island of Stronsay.

There is a pied-billed grebe at Sthians Reservoir, near

Redruth, Cornwall, and a spotted sandpiper at Fen Drayton gravel pits, Cambridgeshire. Both are thought to have been blown across the Atlantic from America.

Researchers at Warwick University have launched a four-year project to give an image boost to bats, one of Britain's most endangered species. Dr Paul Elliott and Niamh Roche, of Warwick's science education department, say bats are one of nature's most effective pest controllers, but their numbers have declined by 90 per cent in the UK in the past century, mainly because of chemical pesticides that poison the insects and grubs on which they feed.

Dr Elliott said vampire films had given bats a lasting image of evil.

## Rebel peers threaten student Bill

BY ALICE THOMSON AND JONATHAN PRYN

A POWERFUL coalition of Conservative MPs and peers is threatening to embarrass the Government by defeating its proposals to clamp down on student unions.

The key proposal in the Education Bill to stop unions spending on political activities could be thrown out, Tory MPs are suggesting. Clause 20, which grants the Education Secretary powers to prevent certain student activities being subsidised by the taxpayer, has been badly drafted and severely limits freedom of expression, they say.

A senior Tory has written to John Patten, calling for the clause to be removed. Two backbench Tories met Tim

■ A revolt might block the latest attempt to curb political activity in student unions, a long-time target of Conservative ire

Boswell, education minister, last week to voice their objections. Under clause 20, certain "core" student activities will still be funded with public money, but others such as political activities will not.

MPs point out that the clause was drafted in the summer when Mr Patten was ill and Baroness Blatch was running the department.

"Civil servants were left to their own devices and they have messed it up," one backbench Tory said. Another said: "Mr Patten is trying to prove that he is tough but he

has picked on the wrong issue." There were enough disaffected Tory MPs to defeat the government if Mr Patten tried to push through the Bill as it stood.

The Bill, which also establishes a new teacher training agency, has already encountered stiff opposition in the Lords where it began its parliamentary passage. During the second reading debate earlier this month, 27 peers of all parties spoke against the Bill and only two gave it their unequivocal support.

Three influential backbench

peers have already tabled an amendment aimed at striking clause 20 from the Bill. They are Baroness Perry of Southwark, the former vice-Chancellor of South Bank University, Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn, the Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, and Lord Walton of Dechmont, the former Warden of Green College, Oxford.

A Tory peer who backs the Bill said: "There is even stronger feeling over the Education Bill than over the Railway Bill in the Upper House."

Rebel peers believe they have the support of 14 Tory backbench MPs. The Education Department said it thought opposition would dry up once the Government gave details of which "core" areas could be publicly funded.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

## EUCRYL SMOKERS TOOTH POWDER ORIGINAL FLAVOUR

The manufacturers of Eucryl products have discovered a fault with a very small number of 75g tubs of Eucryl Smokers Tooth Powder Original Flavour.

These tubs are marked on the base with the number 20834.

Affected tubs contain tooth powder which can cause irritation to the user's mouth. It must be emphasised this only affects a small number of tubs.

You should not use any 75g tub with the number 20834 on the base.

Please return any such tub to the address below for a free replacement, plus postage. If you experience any problem, please telephone our Customer Services Department on 081 527 2377 on or after January 4th.

Retailers are asked to withdraw affected stocks from their shelves. The number is clearly marked on the label pasted to the shrink wrap and on the base of each tub. Any product will be collected by us and replaced - please telephone our Customer Services Department on 081 527 2377 on January 4th to advise of quantities involved.

EUCRYL

NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD, CHINGFORD, LONDON E4 8DA

## Tunnel impasse stalls intrepid drivers

BY KEVIN EASON MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

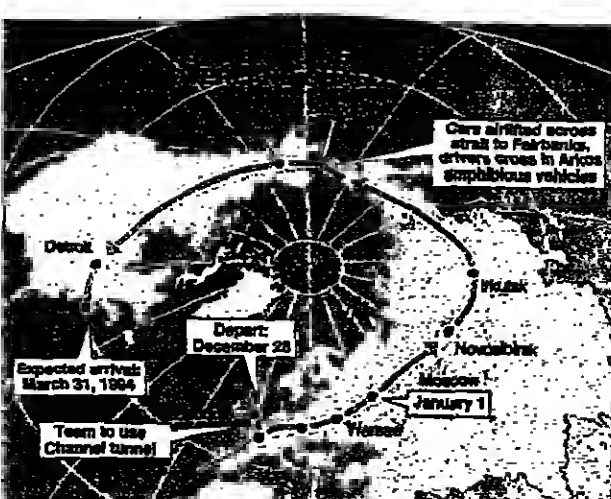
SIX intrepid car drivers facing a 15,500-mile journey across some of the bleakest terrain on Earth will today encounter their biggest obstacle - the red tape preventing them leaving Britain through the Channel tunnel.

The drivers and their multi-million-pound back-up team were scheduled to start the three-month London-to-New York Overland Challenge by being first through the tunnel.

Last night, however, Eurotunnel was uncertain when it could allow the drivers and their two cars through the 30-mile tunnel to France. The team had expected to spend tonight in Paris before driving on to Berlin tomorrow. Eurotunnel said: "There has always been a possibility that we could not get them through. We cannot give a specific time and the commissioning of the tunnel has to take precedence."

None of the shuttle trains is yet in service. That means the Overland team will have to wait for a passing service train or be towed through the service tunnel.

The team left the Embankment in central London yesterday on the first leg of the journey that will take it across Europe, Asia and North America - all by land. David



Hunt, spokesman for Ford, which is financing the expedition, said: "It is an immense challenge and the first time anyone has had the chance to do it because we can get through the tunnel. We have no idea how difficult conditions will be as we move through Russia and Siberia where winter will be at its worst."

There are 28 support crew and a posse of aid vehicles for the two Ford Mondeo's making the attempt. The scale of the project is so vast that on the leg from Moscow to Fairbanks in Alaska the team will need a tonne of pre-packed food, 5,500 gallons of petrol, 19,000 gallons of diesel

and two tons of vehicle spares, including 90 spare wheels. The support operation should take 250 hours of helicopter flying time, while a Hercules C130 aircraft, able to land on ice runways, will take fuel supplies and other essentials to remote areas.

Even with extensive back-up, the drivers face some of the most testing conditions known to man. They have been trained in survival and ice-driving techniques to ensure they cope with sub-zero temperatures.

They include Viktor Jarpukhin, a major-general in the Russian army; Jeff MacInnis, a former member of Canada's World Cup skiing

team and leader of the first successful completion of the Northwest Passage by sailing boat; Peter Duncan, the actor and former *Blue Peter* presenter and Jeni Ballagh, a university student in Northern Ireland and winner of a Duke of Edinburgh gold award. They will carry firearms to ward off wild animals or bandits.

After spending New Year's Eve in Warsaw, the team plans to reach Moscow on January 2, and then cross Siberia, at Ulen on the shore of the Bering Strait, the drivers face their toughest test. Because the Pacific is 3ft higher than the Arctic ocean, there is a constant stream of turbulent water that in winter builds up into a mass of steep, broken ice ridges. No one has ever managed a winter crossing. The team will traverse the straits aboard a 12-seater Aristo, a tracked vehicle designed for the Canadian coastguard to rescue oil rig workers in the Arctic.

Once at Wales, a settlement on the Alaskan coast, the expedition will travel by snowmobile for about 1,000 miles to Manley. There they will rejoin the Mondeo's, airfreighted from Russia, for the rest of the journey to Fairbanks, down the Alaska highway and across Canada to Toronto for a final dash via Detroit to New York.

## KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

## PCA Qualifier

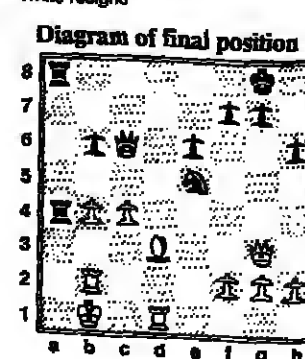
VLADIMIR Kramnik, the teenage Russian Grandmaster, was regarded as one of the pre-tournament favourites at the PCA Qualifier in Groningen. He made a poor start but came back strongly with this win against the veteran Viktor Korchnoi. White's plan of advancing on the queenside when his king was committed to that sector looked dubious. In the final position after 28 ... Ra1 29 Kc2 Qc4+ 30 Rb3 Rxd1.

White: Viktor Korchnoi  
Black: Vladimir Kramnik  
Groningen, December 1993

## Semi-Slav Defence

1	d4	c5
2	c4	c6
3	Nf3	Nf6
4	Nc3	e6
5	Bg5	h6
6	Bxf6	Qd6
7	e3	Nd7
8	a4	c6
9	Qd2	Qc7
10	Qe2	Qc7
11	Qd2	Qc7
12	Qe2	Qc7
13	Qd2	Qc7
14	Qe2	Qc7
15	Qd2	Qc7
16	Qe2	Qc7
17	Qd2	Qc7

18	Nb5	Qc8
19	Nb6	Bd8
20	Rd2	Qc7
21	Rd2	a5
22	Bd3	b4
23	a4	Rd4
24	Rd2	Rf6
25	Rd1	Bd3
26	Qd3	Ne5
27	Qd3	Qc6



## Hastings

Britain's premier all-play-all tournament starts at Hastings tomorrow and runs until January 9. The line-up John Nunn, Ian Rogers, Matthew Sadler, the British champion Michael Hennigan, and Kevan Arakhamia, one of the foremost women players from Georgia.

Winning Move, page 32

PLO mood peace

Business Delhi re

Malays English

Malaysian increasingly pragmatic Prime Minister, a pragmatic reversal of a long-standing "look East" campaign, said yesterday that his government would permit technical subjects to be taught in English at Malaysian colleges and universities.

"We'll use English where necessary because we cannot let the efficiency and capability of our people be lower than that of people in foreign countries," he said at the launch of a second Malaysian car manufacturing company.

The former British colony, which became indepen-



NEWS IN BRIEF

Seven hurt in City gas blast

At least seven people, including one woman, were injured in a gas explosion near a food restaurant in the City of London yesterday, police said. All are expected to have been injured by shrapnel from a gas cylinder that exploded near a McDonald's restaurant. The blast occurred at about 10.30am on the corner of Abchurch Lane, near Liverpool Street Station. The restaurant was believed to have been using a gas cylinder for a hot water heater. The police said the blast was caused by a gas cylinder that exploded near a McDonald's restaurant. The blast occurred at about 10.30am on the corner of Abchurch Lane, near Liverpool Street Station. The restaurant was believed to have been using a gas cylinder for a hot water heater. The police said the blast was caused by a gas cylinder that exploded near a McDonald's restaurant.

Father charged

A 40-year-old father of two children was charged with the murder of his 15-year-old son yesterday. The boy was found dead in a park in London. The father, who is a teacher, is accused of killing his son with a knife. The boy was found with multiple stab wounds. The father is being held in custody and is due to appear in court next week.

Solicitor guilty

A solicitor was found guilty of fraud yesterday after being accused of stealing money from his clients. The solicitor, who works in a law firm in London, is accused of stealing over £100,000 from his clients. He is being sentenced to prison for three years.

Bet shop death

A man was found dead in a betting shop in London yesterday. The man, who was in his 40s, was found with a gunshot wound to the head. The police are investigating the case and have not yet identified the shooter.

Dirty business

A man was found dead in a betting shop in London yesterday. The man, who was in his 40s, was found with a gunshot wound to the head. The police are investigating the case and have not yet identified the shooter.

Marina drama

A man was found dead in a betting shop in London yesterday. The man, who was in his 40s, was found with a gunshot wound to the head. The police are investigating the case and have not yet identified the shooter.

Double

A man was found dead in a betting shop in London yesterday. The man, who was in his 40s, was found with a gunshot wound to the head. The police are investigating the case and have not yet identified the shooter.

Slender man held

A man was found dead in a betting shop in London yesterday. The man, who was in his 40s, was found with a gunshot wound to the head. The police are investigating the case and have not yet identified the shooter.

Fire death

A man was found dead in a betting shop in London yesterday. The man, who was in his 40s, was found with a gunshot wound to the head. The police are investigating the case and have not yet identified the shooter.

Railway close

A man was found dead in a betting shop in London yesterday. The man, who was in his 40s, was found with a gunshot wound to the head. The police are investigating the case and have not yet identified the shooter.

# PLO split deepens mood of despair as peace talks resume

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL and the Palestine Liberation Organisation were last night ready to resume negotiations aimed at breaking the deadlock in the peace process, but the Israelis said before the talks opened that they had no new concessions to offer.

In a desperate but probably doomed 24-hour meeting in Cairo, Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, and Mahmoud Abbas, the PLO's top adviser, were expected to try to resolve the differences that have frozen their historic "land for peace" agreement. "I very much hope that [Yassir] Arafat will descend the tree he has climbed, because I am not bringing anything new with me," said Mr Peres, in an interview published yesterday in the Hebrew daily *Yediot Ahronot*. "I am going to Cairo with a lot of goodwill in order to put into operation the declaration of principles — out of respect to the Palestinians. But I am not bringing anything new."

The talks have been stymied on several issues, concerning who will control future borders between the Palestinian self-administered areas and the neighbouring states of Jordan and Egypt, the size of the Palestinian enclave in the Jordan Valley round the town of Jericho, and the security arrangements in Gaza for Jewish settlements.

Israel has hinted that it is willing to increase the size of the Palestinian-controlled

## Hopes of reviving the Middle East dialogue appear doomed before negotiators meet. Israel has nothing new to offer

area in Jericho, but has ruled out a PLO demand that the autonomous region stretch to the Dead Sea. On the thorny question of borders, the two sides have proposed all manner of joint responsibility for frontier patrols and immigration control. However, the Israelis are adamant that they must retain ultimate responsibility for who and what is allowed into the Palestinian-governed areas.

Before leaving for Cairo Mr Peres hinted, during a lively debate in the Knesset on right-wing "no confidence" motions over the government's handling of the talks, that the present delay could last "a month or two months".

While the government has insisted that it is willing to stand by the deal for as long as it will take, officials concede that time may be running out for the peace-makers. Although the left-wing coalition survived the "no confidence" motions, the ruling Labour Party had to wheel in Shaul Mofaz from hospital on a stretcher to ensure a majority. The expected delay is also likely to increase the disenchantment felt by the Palestinians in the occupied territories, who were promised that Israel would begin withdrawing its forces from the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho on December 13. Mr

Arafat, the PLO leader, is losing support, even among loyalists in his Fatah movement. At least four key figures in the occupied territories have resigned over the past two days, amid complaints about the slowness of the peace process and Mr Arafat's autocratic style.

The Palestinian negotiations are being run the wrong way, said Sami Abu Sa'ad, the head of Fatah's office in the Gaza Strip, who resigned on Sunday together with his deputy. "The organisational work is also going incorrectly. The Palestinian street will pay for this chaos, and I do not want to be involved in the chaos."

The latest resignations, after a string of defections, were prompted by the appointments of two Arafat loyalists to key posts in the occupied territories, where younger activists feel they have been overlooked.

The younger leadership, which was largely responsible for organising and executing the six year intifada (uprising) against Israeli rule, is suspicious that the PLO, from its exiled headquarters in Tunis, plans to install a "salon leadership" of traditional figures and Mr Arafat's closest companions.

Since the signing of the peace accord, the power struggle going on within Fatah has already been blamed for the assassination of three prominent members in Gaza, and there are fears that further splits could lead to renewed violence.

Some of the best known and most able Palestinians to emerge in the occupied territories over the past few years have publicly criticised Mr Arafat's high-handedness and made it clear that they want no part of his future government. The most prominent defector this month was the articulate former spokeswoman, Hanan Ashrawi, who resigned to help establish a human rights watchdog.



President Clinton brings Yassir Arafat and Shimon Peres together a day of hope

# Cairo tourists bombed by Islamic militants



Egyptian security men examining a tourist coach in Cairo after it was bombed and sprayed with machine-gun fire by suspected Islamic fundamentalists yesterday. Although the coach was carrying 18 Austrian tourists, nobody was killed. Eight Austrians were injured, three of them seriously (Michael Theodorou writes from Nicosia). One man lost an eye, another had a bullet lodged in the brain, and a 25-year-old woman had serious leg injuries. Eight Egyptians were also wounded, some by flying glass, others when passers-by gave chase

and the gunmen fired to clear an escape route through the narrow alleyways of the Old Cairo section of the city. The three gunmen escaped in a taxi. The attack, at a time when many Britons are planning next year's holidays, came as the Egyptian authorities reported a modest revival in tourism. The authorities have hanged 29 militants since mid-June in a ferocious campaign of suppression. In response, militants have concentrated their attacks on officials and the security services, murdering 18 policemen this month

in the highest police death toll in any month for two years. The bus carrying the tourists, who arrived on Sunday, was heading for the Coptic Hanging Church in Old Cairo, an area rich in historic sites. "Suddenly I heard bullets and a big explosion," Muhammad Said, the driver, said. Other witnesses said one attacker, a youth of 17 or 18, limped in front of the bus to slow it down while a second man threw a bomb. The bomb bounced off the bus, injuring several Egyptians outside a coffee shop while a second bomb

exploded inside the bus. "It was our first trip today, to see Old Cairo," said Ernst Nowotny, 50, who appeared to have been deafened by the sound. "I saw something coming through the window. I thought it was a stone, but it was a bomb." His wife Maria, 48, was injured in the foot. The attack coincides with an campaign against foreigners in Algeria, where 16 have been killed this month and 70,000 expatriates have returned home. The Foreign Office has advised Britons to be vigilant.

# Israelis kill UN soldier in south Lebanon

By RICHARD BEESTON

ISRAELI forces killed a Norwegian soldier serving with the United Nations in southern Lebanon yesterday and injured a second after the men were apparently mistaken for a group of guerrillas. The five-man Norwegian foot patrol inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" came under tank and mortar fire near the village of Blat in the early hours of yesterday after the Israeli army said that it had spotted "suspicious movements".

Timor Goksel, spokesman for the UN Interim Force (Unifil) in Lebanon, said that the incident happened after the Israelis had been told by the United Nations that the sector was quiet. In a separate attack, hours earlier, another UN position manned by Irish soldiers came under artillery fire from the South Lebanon Army, the Israeli-backed militia. In a third incident a Lebanese civilian aged 65 was killed by Israeli shells falling on the village of Braachit. "We keep telling them that all Unifil positions are clearly marked and known. We try to

be as co-operative as possible," Mr Goksel said. "We want them to pay more attention and take more care about where they fire their guns. Unfortunately that seems to be lacking in this part of the world." The incident is likely to put further strain on relations between the peacekeepers and the Israelis. It is a particularly painful blow for the Norwegians, who this year successfully mediated the peace agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. In Oslo, Jan Egeland, the

Norwegian Deputy Foreign Minister, said that he had protested to Yossi Beilin, his Israeli counterpart. Mr Beilin expressed his "deep regret" over the action. "I said that this is completely incomprehensible from the Norwegian side. The Norwegian patrol was in the UN area; it was a normal patrol," said Mr Egeland, who personally helped to broker the Arab-Israeli peace deal. "This episode shows how wrong the entire Israeli occupation of south Lebanon is."

The 5,000-strong peacekeeping force has lost 195 soldiers, including 20 Norwegians, since it was deployed in 1978 as a buffer between the Israeli army and guerrilla groups in southern Lebanon. Earlier in the year, a Nepalese soldier was killed during an artillery bombardment by Israeli forces. Major General Yitzhak Mordechai, who is the leader of Israel's Northern Command, ordered a military enquiry into yesterday's incident, and Brigadier Baruch Spiegel, head of Israel's liaison unit with the UN in Lebanon, apologised to the Unifil commanders.

# Businessmen try to keep Delhi reformer in office

FROM COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

WITH pressure mounting on P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Indian Prime Minister, not to accept the resignation of Manmohan Singh, the Finance Minister, there was a chance that he might be persuaded to stay in office. The Prime Minister, who received Dr Singh's resignation letter last Thursday, has yet to announce his acceptance of Dr Singh's decision. Mr Rao appears to be waiting for the two-day debate in parliament, beginning tomorrow, on the report of the joint parliamentary committee enquiry into the multi-million securities scandal before making any announcement. Dr Singh, the architect of India's economic reforms over the past two and a half years, had decided to resign because of critical references to him in the committee's report. The report, while upholding Dr Singh's personal integrity, said it had regretted that Dr Singh had not been alerted earlier to the steep fluctuations in the stock market, caused by illegal fuelling of funds from banks and government organ-

isations. The report made far graver accusations against two other ministers, B. Shankaranand, the Health Minister, and Rameshwar Thakur, a the Rural Development Minister, who have refused to resign. Since the announcement of his resignation, Dr Singh has received strong backing from representatives of trade, industry, the press and even opposition parties to stay. Indicative of the widespread support was the remark of



Rao: awaiting debate on securities report

Nicholas Fenn, the British High Commissioner, who at an award ceremony on Sunday said of Dr Singh: "If tomorrow you are run over by a bus, it will not only shake India but the whole world." The *Economic Times* observed: "Dr Singh is one of the few people to emerge from the securities scam with an unsullied reputation for integrity. Therefore it would be bizarre if he is punished when so many others with dubious reputations stay untouched." After news of Dr Singh's resignation leaked out last Friday, there was a fall in stock prices. The full impact of Dr Singh's resignation will be known only when the market resumes trading in the new year. If Dr Singh's resignation is accepted, it is feared that it could lead to panic on the share market, which has only recently recovered from the scandal's aftermath. Many businessmen feel that international lending agencies were willing to extend credit to the government largely because of Dr Singh's personal standing.

# Malaysia driven back to English by market forces

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BANGKOK

MALAYSIA'S increasingly mercurial Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed, in a pragmatic reversal of a long-standing "look East" campaign, said yesterday that his government would permit technical subjects to be taught in English at Malaysian colleges and universities. "We'll use English where necessary because we cannot let the efficiency and capability of our people be lower than that of people in foreign countries," he said at the launch of a second Malaysian car manufacturing company. The former British colony, which became indepen-

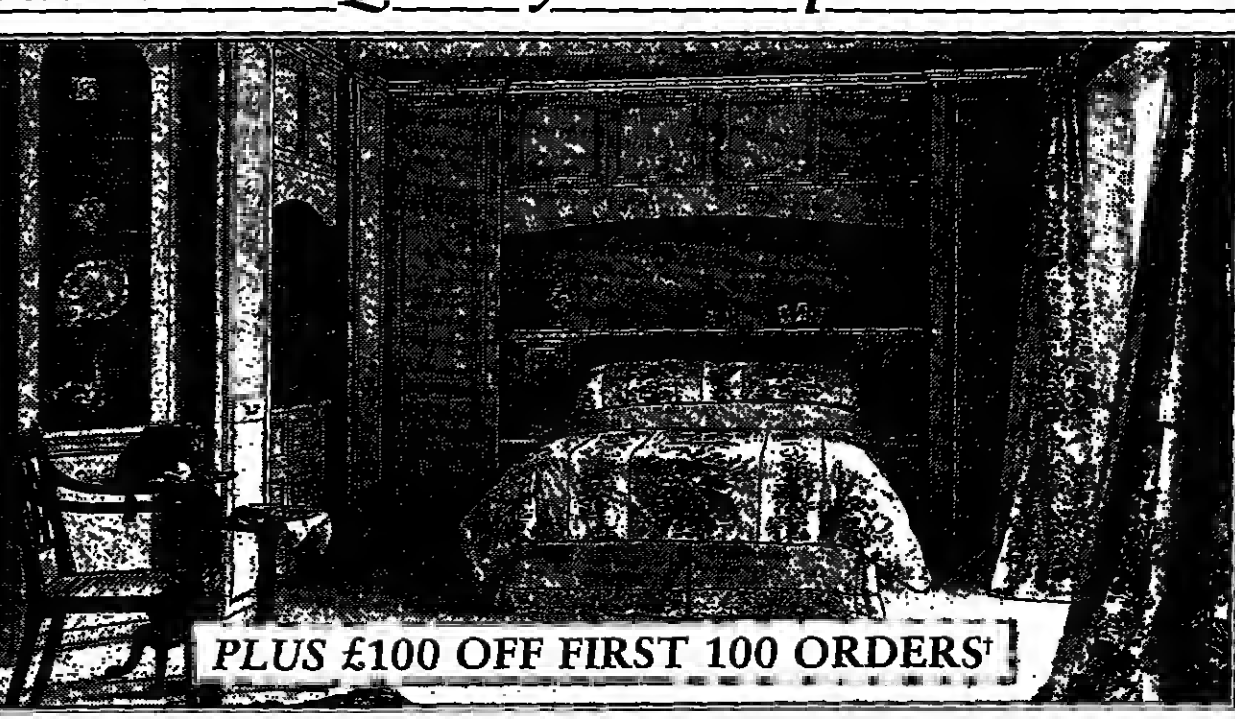
dent in 1957, started to phase out instruction in English in 1971 in an effort to erase memories of colonialism and to build a Malay culture. Dr Mahathir, who wants Malaysia to become a developed country by 2020, has fervently backed the "think Malay" drive. He now admits that there is a shortage of scholars who could translate English textbooks into Malay. He said that his cabinet decided to bring back English-language instruction, at least at college level, so that Malaysia could remain competitive internationally. "From the practical point of view, we need to master

English," Dr Mahathir said. Until recently, Malaysia appeared to have been swinging towards Japan, and many Malaysians had been encouraged to learn Japanese. Japan has invested heavily in Malaysia and many Malaysians were studying in Tokyo and other Japanese cities. However, American interest in investment in Malaysia has revived, after strained relations between Kuala Lumpur and Washington. "Even if we express strong opinions on certain issues, it does not mean we are anti-American," Abdulah Dadawi, the Foreign Minister, said.

# SHARPS JANUARY SALE

## The Sharps Half Price Bedroom Sale

Guaranteed Quality at Unrepeatable Prices



If you're looking for a fitted bedroom of outstanding quality, at a price you won't find anywhere else, then look no further than Sharps. Because prices on our entire range of beautiful bedrooms have been reduced by as much as half! So now you can get the best fitted bedroom from Britain's No.1 fitted bedroom company, at an unrepeatable price. So if you've been waiting for the best time to buy the best fitted bedroom, don't wait a moment longer. Visit a show-room today, or call us now for your free colour brochure.

VISIT A SHOWROOM OR CALL 0800 789 789

# Showrooms Nationwide

- London**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- South East**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- South West**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- West Midlands**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- East Midlands**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- North East**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- North West**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- Yorkshire**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- Wales & the West**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- Scotland**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- Wales & the West**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299
- Scotland**  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299  
Brentford (Hemel Hempstead) 0181-616 6299







NEWS IN BRIEF

Race clash erupts on Durban beach

Johannesburg: Michael Upshott, the mayor of Durban, South Africa, says that the number of people who will be deployed to the beaches next weekend to prevent similar racial clashes to those that erupted in Boxing Day (Boxing Day) will be 10,000. Upshott says that a group of about 100 people, who were seen from the neck of a hill, had been seen in the area, and that they were seen to be carrying weapons. He says that the police are now on high alert and that they are expecting a large number of people to be deployed to the beaches next weekend.

Castro 'relents'

Havana: The Cuban government has agreed to allow the entry of 10,000 Cuban citizens to the United States, a move that is seen as a sign of a change in policy. The move is part of a series of steps that the Cuban government has taken to ease relations with the United States.

Marcos plea

Manila: Ferdinand Marcos, the former president of the Philippines, has pleaded for a pardon from the Philippine government. He says that he is innocent of the charges against him and that he is ready to accept the consequences of his actions.

Author's loss

New York: The author of the book 'The Godfather', Mario Puzo, has died of a heart attack. He was 68 years old.

Rice hijacked

Manila: A cargo ship carrying rice has been hijacked by a group of men. The ship is carrying a large amount of rice, which is a valuable commodity in the Philippines.

Guitarist ill

New York: The guitarist of the band 'The Police', Stewart Copeland, has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. He is currently undergoing treatment.

True danger

New York: A report from the United Nations says that the situation in the Balkans is becoming increasingly dangerous. It says that there is a risk of a full-scale war breaking out.

Socialists to remove und taint

New York: A report from the United Nations says that the situation in the Balkans is becoming increasingly dangerous. It says that there is a risk of a full-scale war breaking out.

Fog aids the muddled Russian anti-terrorist forces to foil kidnappers

Luck runs out for gang who plotted perfect crime

Anne McElvoy describes how an attempt by gunmen to extract a \$10 million ransom from the Kremlin, by taking child hostages, almost succeeded

FOUR masked gunmen, whose near-perfect kidnap and ransom went awry when bad weather scuppered their minutely plotted timetable, were arrested yesterday in the southern autonomous republic of Dagestan after a nocturnal chase and gun battle with anti-terrorist forces.

The hijackers, three Central Asians and a Russian air navigator, had secured a \$10 million (£6.8 million) ransom from the Russian government after taking hostage a group of children and adults in Rostov-on-Don last Thursday. They had taken some of them on board an explosives-packed helicopter, in which they said they intended to escape to Iran, via Dagestan and Azerbaijan. But while Moscow's Foreign Ministry pursued intensive negotiations with Tehran to prevent

their escape, and crack troops prepared to mount an attack on the craft at the airport in Makhachkala, the Dagestani capital, the men were pursuing their real aim: to land in the darkened outskirts of the city and flee with their ransom.

For five days the men managed to outwit the combined efforts of the Spetsnaz anti-terrorist troops, the Committee for State Emergency, the army helicopter task force and the Security Ministry, which despite being officially dissolved by President Yeltsin last week was still deemed to be the only organisation able to co-ordinate such an operation.

Officers from the elite anti-terror brigade are now nursing badly bruised pride. They told *Izvestia* yesterday that

they had been caught off-guard by the use of a helicopter by the hijackers. "We were only trained to seize aeroplanes," a team member said. Mr Yeltsin thanked the police and security forces for their work and said that the "hour of trial" had shown the best qualities of the Russian people, "who have never been indifferent to the grief of others". The President will be particularly relieved that the hijacking ended without bloodshed at the end of a trying political year.

With all the children and a captive bus driver gradually released as their demands for money, fuel, safe passage and supplies were met, the gunmen ordered their final captives, two military pilots, to fly the Soviet-era Mi8 to a Makhachkala suburb. They broke their radio link to delay information on their whereabouts and made off into the night, leaving first thrown heavy bundles of notes out of the aircraft over Chechnya.

The authorities, however, were shadowing the flight in radar-equipped helicopters and all routes from the city were blocked by Dagestan interior forces and a special task force. Troops moved in shortly after the kidnappers had fled and found the helicopter pilots unharmed. Three hours later they discovered two of the men hiding nearby; the other pair were arrested at dawn.

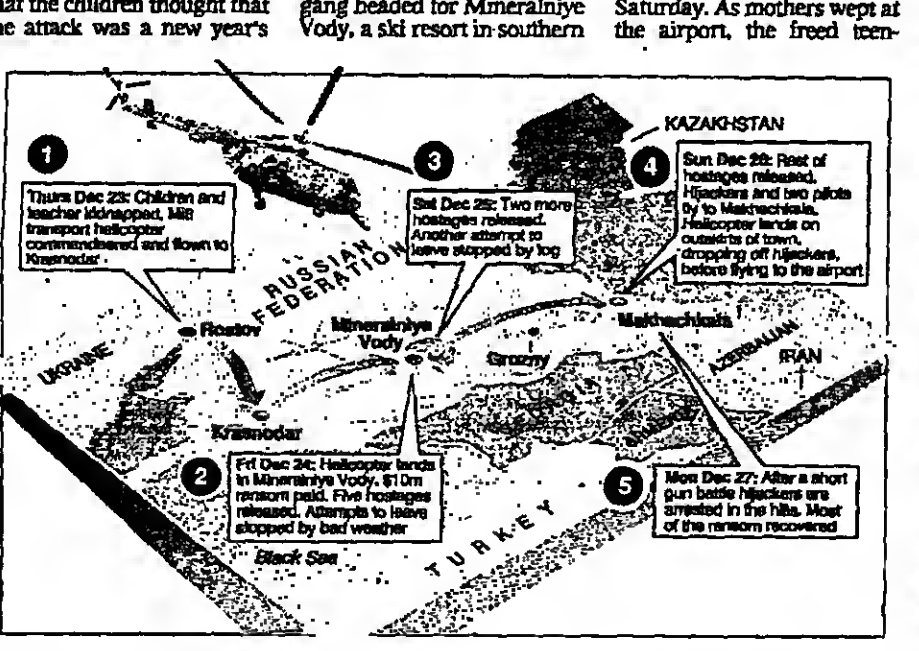
The gang members were identified as Arsan Kasimov, a Kirgiz resident in Azerbaijan who has a substantial criminal record; Anatoli Mikhayev, an air navigator who was dismissed from the armed forces for drunkenness; Abdulgafar Abdurazimov, a fifth-year mechanics student at Uzbekistan's Tashkent University; and Marat Kauzakov, a Kazakh student at Tashkent's architectural institute. One of the men claimed he needed the money for AIDS treatment.

The hijack began when the men stormed a secondary



Andrei Schaterin, 14, is hugged by Valentina Petrenko, the negotiator, after his release

school in central Rostov, taking hostage seven pupils, mainly girls, and a female teacher. Valentina Fedoseyeva, the headmistress, said that the children thought that the attack was a new year's



The leader of the gunmen after he was captured



Another abductor arrested by Russian authorities



Part of the \$10 million ransom, after most was retrieved

agers said that their captors had been polite and told them not to worry. "They played cards with us," said 16-year-old Yevgeni Mitayev.

The kidnappers issued a constant stream of demands for vodka, cigarettes and even a Polaroid camera, so that they could furnish their prisoners with souvenir photographs of their ordeal. By Saturday afternoon they had paid their hostages down to the two pilots, two schoolboys and a bus driver, and allowed Valentina Petrenko, the chief government negotiator, on board.

"They have not made a single mistake," a plume member of the State Emergency Committee told Russian television. "They have even brought a machine to check the ransom money for forgery."

But the attempt to take off for Makhachkala on Saturday foundered due to thick fog. As the weather worsened throughout Sunday, the gunmen's nerves became frayed.

They believed that the warnings from air traffic control that take-off was unsafe due to poor visibility and low cloud was a delaying tactic to spring a trap. Threatening to shoot if prevented from leaving, they released the teenage boys and the bus driver, and embarked on their last flight.

Commonwealth television yesterday showed pictures of the unshaven men, dejectedly slumped in a shabby police station in their bullet-proof jackets. Most of the money has been recovered, bringing to an end an exploit whose exhilarating mixture of terror and farce that has kept Russians glued to their television sets since last week.

"Those late-night crime films won't be able to match this one for drama," said one Moscow housewife. Once the hostages were free, she admitted, she had harboured the guilty hope that Russia's equivalent of the Great Train Robbers might just get away with it.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Security chief rebukes Yeltsin

Moscow: Nikolai Golushko, head of the Security Ministry, the former KGB security police dissolved by President Yeltsin last week, has criticised the decision.

Mr Golushko said the Security Ministry could lose about 30 per cent of its officers when it is transformed into a counter-intelligence service. "At least after the October events I would not have made such abrupt movements," he said, referring to the revolt that Mr Yeltsin crushed.

Mr Yeltsin had criticised the ministry for its lack of action. "I do not denounce the President, I obey him. But I am talking about the personal feelings of honest officers," Mr Golushko said. (Reuters)

Germany helps Aids victims

Bonn: Germans infected with the virus that causes Aids during blood transfusions will be paid damages from January. Horst Seehofer, the Health Minister, said those who have not yet developed full-blown Aids will get DM1,000 (£393) each for every month since they received contaminated blood; while those with Aids would be given DM2,000 a month. (AFP)

Trains targeted

Paris: Sniper fire and stones injured three passengers on two suburban trains, rail authorities said. Police travelled on the Pontoise to Paris lines after the attacks, which occurred as the trains travelled through a ring of the poorer suburbs. (AP)

36 die in crash

Moscow: A Russian cargo plane crashed on landing at Giumri in western Armenia, killing 36 people. The Antonov 26 from Krasnodar, in southern Russia, bungled its approach because of thick fog and came down in a river close to the airport. (AFP)

Royalist hope

Bucharest: Romanian cultural leaders have launched a campaign to persuade the authorities to restore the citizenship and nationality of exiled King Michael, which were withdrawn in 1948 by the country's former Communist rulers. (Reuters)

Nappy rash

Paris: After facing pollution threats from shipwrecked firework detonators and pesticides, people on the Brittany coast near St Brieuc are bracing themselves for a tidal wave of nappies. A cargo of them has been lost at sea. (Reuters)

Republicans pray for Clinton disasters as they clean up their act

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

TWO portraits of George Bush still dominate the foyer of the Republican Party's headquarters just south of the Capitol. This is curious, because up in his plush fourth-floor office Haley Barbour, the party chairman, seems eager to banish the memory of the last President.

The lesson of Mr Bush's shattering defeat, he said, is that "the Republicans have to stand for something. A lot of people in '92 didn't feel they even knew what we were asking them to vote for. In 1988 people thought they were voting for the party of smaller government, lower taxes and fewer regulations but they felt taxes went up, spending went up and regulation increased."

Mr Barbour, an affable Mississippi man who makes diphthongs of even the shortest vowels, really wanted to talk about 1993. "We've had a great year, we really have," he declared even before he had settled his ample body into an armchair.

The party's widely predicted post-election bloodbath never transpired. It papered over last year's deep rifts on such emotive issues as abortion. Instead it was united by President Clinton's support for homosexuals in the military, record tax increases and de facto racial quotas within his Administration.

The Republicans snatched from the Democrats Senate seats in Georgia and Texas, the governorships of Virginia and New Jersey, the mayoralties of Los Angeles and New York, 21 seats in state legislative by-elections as well as the

lieutenant-governorship of the President's native Arkansas. All this was before Mr Clinton's alleged extra-marital activities again became a national talking point. Morale, fund-raising and recruitment soared. Small wonder Mr Barbour's Christmas card read: "Republicans have had a happy holiday all year long."

Mr Barbour professes high hopes for 1994 when a third of the Senate and all the House

seats are up for re-election. Historically, the opposition party always makes gains in the mid-term congressional elections of a new presidency, and this time the Democrats must defend 21 of the 34 Senate seats and 34 of the 56 most vulnerable House districts.

Mr Barbour said it was even possible that the Republicans, led by Oliver North in Virginia, could win the seven extra seats required to take control of the Senate, but at that point his mask of unshak-



Barbour: "We have had a really great year"

US trend-watchers usher in lesbians and Lorena Bobbitt

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

What do Prozac, lesbianism, Shaikh Omar Abdel Rahman, the Internet and Beavis and Butt-head have in common? The anti-depressant, the sexual tendency, the accused Muslim terrorist, the worldwide computer network and MTV's illiterate adolescent cartoon characters have all been officially declared in vogue in America.

Using *New York* as a convenient excuse, newspapers and magazines take stock of the past 12 months with their own, often tongue-in-cheek, lists of who is in and who is out. The winners range from the predictable — such as *Time* magazine's four Men of the Year: Yasser Arafat, Yitzhak Rabin, Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk — to the relatively obscure, such as Shaquille O'Neal, who is expected to become the hero of the national basketball league with the retirement of superstar Michael Jordan.

The losers are equally diverse, but there is rare unanimity on the fact that Michael Jackson is the biggest loser of them all. The pop singer, almost certainly the world's most famous human, began the year surrounded by children entertaining tens of millions of television viewers during half-time in American football's Super Bowl. He ended it with an emotional denial of child abuse allegations on live television to those very same viewers.

If Michael Jackson is still feeling good about himself as the New Year approaches, it may well be because of Prozac. The

most-depressant, probably the most popular drug since Valium hit the mass market in the 1970s, was credited in the last year with creating "a legal drug culture".

Lesbians had a particularly good year, if we are to believe the fashion pundits. *New York* magazine and *Newsweek* both ran cover stories on women who had come out of the closet. The word "lesbian" until graduation" entered the lexicon, and lesbian characters appeared on several popular soap operas. *Rolling Stone*, the rock music magazine, summed it up: "Hot Subculture: You're in if you're out."

Shaikh Omar Rahman, now awaiting trial in Manhattan for allegedly plotting to unleash a "Day of Terror" in New York, had enough "radical shank" for the arbiters of style. The man described by *Esquire* magazine as "the Ayatollah Khomeini wannabe of the year" had some strange bedfellows among those nominated as "in" in 1993. The blind Muslim cleric made *People* magazine's list of "the 25 most intriguing people of 1993" alongside the likes of Bill and Hillary Clinton, the Princess of Wales, and Lorena Bobbitt, who cut off her husband's penis.

Howard Stern, the foul-mouthed radio talk show host who is soon to have his own television show, found his way into the "in" column of almost everyone's list, justifying his frequent claim that he is "the king of all media" in 1993.

Now from the USA: The world's best aerobic workout.

Most fitness experts agree that cross-country skiing is the world's best form of aerobic exercise. NordicSport Ski. In just 1 hour, you can burn up to 1,100 calories — burning more calories in less time than exercise bikes, treadmills and stepping machines. Just 20 minutes three times a week raises your metabolism so the fat stays off — permanently.

And nothing gives you the total body health benefits of cross-country skiing like NordicSport Ski. That's because NordicSport Ski works all the major muscle groups together, while allowing you to set independent resistance levels for your upper and lower body, giving you the total body workout that's right for you.

But NordicSport Ski doesn't stop there. It also strengthens your heart and lungs. So while you're toning your body, you can build stamina and reduce stress.

Burn up to 1,100 calories an hour. No other machine helps you fight flab like NordicSport Ski.

To discover how NordicSport Ski can make you look — and feel — the best you have in years, simply return the coupon or call us free on 0800 616 179 EXT DT 144

Yes, I would like to know more about the world's best aerobic workout. Please send me my free video [ ] and brochure [ ] without obligation.

Name (Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: NordicTrack (UK) Ltd, Dept DT 144, FREEPOST CV 2617, Warwick, CV34 6BR. No stamp is required. Alternatively, you can fax us on 0926 470 811.

Send for your free brochure and video now.

**nordic sport** by NordicTrack



Why do so many girls and women feel the powerful urge to diet?

# The thin end of the wedge

What are the influences in society that cause millions of perfectly healthy teenagers — particularly girls — to decide that they need to "go on a diet"? How did the cult of thinness start?

Perhaps the most surreptitious "thin" influence comes from the tobacco industry. It is true that smokers tend to be slimmer. Smoking can reduce appetite and sully the taste buds by dulling pleasurable food flavours. Nicotine is also a stimulant that can help burn calories. But smokers are also more likely to die of lung cancer and heart disease. Plump people aren't. In fact, on average, cigarette smokers live 15 years fewer than non-smokers.

Rubens painted plump curvaceous women, considered in their time to be very sexy. The Victorians were also proud to be plump, favouring women of a similar shape and accentuating natural female traits such as large hips. But since the 1920s, thin has been in. It would be futile to enter into a chicken-and-egg debate about whether the fashion industry originally created this trend or merely followed it. What is undeniably true is that fashion designers on both sides of the Atlantic since the 1960s have created the cult of the super-thin model.

From Twiggy in the 1960s to Kate Moss in the 1990s, the boyish, breastless and small-bottomed top models seem anything but feminine. To help achieve this, girls of 14 or 15 years of age have sometimes been used on shoots. And thus it has become desirable — and literally fashionable — to be thin. Most models are size 10-12. The average size for British women is 16. Why should some parts of the fashion industry want, in effect, to de-sex women?

Some observers of the fashion industry point to the influence of gay designers, whose clothes and models reflect what they find attractive. They have encouraged, if not created, a new aesthetic for women: the slim androgynous. But the aesthetics of all designers apparently dictate that clothes look better on a tall, thin body. Fashion, says the

Toy manufacturers and fashion designers have fostered the obsession with thinness. Dr Tom Sanders and Peter Bazalgette continue their look at dieting dangers

fashion writer Lowri Turner, is about ideals. Beauty is about exclusivity. So models cannot look like the majority.

The way the fashion industry operates also promotes an unrealistic super-thin feminine ideal. Fashion photography for magazines is usually carried out months before the clothes actually reach the high street. So "samples" are specially run up. These are always made in a small size, 10 or 12.

Even when newspapers publish fashion features about clothes already available, they invariably pick sizes 10 or 12 as the examples. Indeed, larger clothes (inaccurately called "outsizes" when they are only size 16) are often badly made because larger women can suffer from such low self-esteem that they spend little

**"The dolls all have tiny hips compared with real women, tiny waists and much smaller busts"**

on, and expect little from, such clothes.

When we saw an exercise video in the high-street stores — *Dance! Workout with Barbie* — it set us thinking. On the cover it shows the familiar, stick-insect figure of Barbie doing a dance exercise. In the video it claims the exercise programmes are for children over five. Exercise videos are rather like diet books, presented by slim women with an air of fanaticism, all done in the name of the perfect figure. But what effect can such activities

have on pre-pubescent girls? What sort of a role model do fashion dolls represent?

We have analysed three of the most popular dolls given to young girls at the moment. There is hardly a family in Britain that has not bought either a Sindy, a Barbie or a Little Mermaid. We first measured their height, hips, waist and bust (see table below). We then took these measurements and worked out what sort of body they would represent for a woman of average height — 5ft 4in (see second table). The first column below shows what the vital statistics are for a normal healthy woman of this height.

These statistics, not vital in any sense, reveal that the toy industry is doing just the same as the fashion industry: presenting a bizarre and distorted feminine ideal. Though at least the toy manufacturers are doing it to plastic dolls rather than to real people. The dolls all have tiny hips by comparison with real women, tiny waists, much smaller busts and exaggerated inside leg measurements. We can only guess the effect this propaganda has on small girls. But it puts the emergence of nine-year-old anorexics into perspective.

With pressures on our children from all around them to be thin, it means that parents should now be extremely careful what they say in the home. How many mothers have audible conversations about what sort of figure their young daughters are going to have? Will her thighs slim down? Will her bottom be too big? Such apparently innocent remarks, on top of everything else, could end up being dangerous.

Indeed, the following statistics tell an alarming story. A 1983 survey published by the Department of Health found that about 5 per cent of 14-year-olds were trying to lose weight. A similar figure of 6 per cent for 15 to 18-year-old girls was reported as long ago as 1985. Disturbing recent

research by Jane Thomas at King's College, London, reveals that among 12 and 13-year-olds 22 per cent of boys and 39 per cent of girls want to lose weight and that 8 per cent and 16 per cent respectively were currently changing their diet to lose weight. As obesity is rare among this age group, most of these children don't need to lose weight.

This trend was confirmed when Salwa El-Jabche at King's College investigated

**"Hundreds of thousands of young people are now dieting who do not need to"**

children who had been attending slimming clubs. Obesity is normally defined as being more than 20 per cent of the standard weight for height — it is a technical measurement of those who are overweight. She found that 32 per cent of girls aged 12 to 16 years attending slimming clubs were not obese and some of the children who were going to slimming clubs were not overweight at all. Children and young people of this age do not belong in slimming clubs anyway.

Obesity is not only rare among children; few teenagers experience it either. The third table below (from a Government survey carried out in 1991) shows that obesity is more prevalent with increasing age.

Why is the vogue for slimming increasing among schoolchildren? We have looked at the pressure from

the fashion industry and the strange stereotypes sold by the toy manufacturers. Dr Rose Dawson, who runs a centre for children with eating disorders, says that many of the children she sees also have mothers who are fanatical about diet and fitness.

Hundreds of thousands of young people are now dieting who do not need to. The prevalence of eating disorders and people who are seriously underweight has now emerged as a major health problem. About 15 per cent of young women are now underweight. In schools, as elsewhere, the diet obsession has taken hold.

Until recently, anorexia was the disorder which received all the publicity. But, in fact, bulimia is now much more common, and millions suffer from milder eating disorders such as bingeing or other unhealthy eating patterns caused by dieting.

We tend to think of eating disorders as extreme conditions which only afflict other people. But answer these questions:

- Do you frequently go on diets?
- How often do you tell other people: "I mustn't, I'm on a diet"?
- Do you often count calories?
- Does your weight fluctuate regularly — losing a stone on a diet, then putting it on again and so on?
- Do you ever have eating binges — like consuming five Mars bars at one sitting?
- Do you often prepare one meal for family or friends and a totally different one for yourself?
- Do you often eat separately and secretly from the rest of your family or friends?
- Have you ever turned down an invitation because you couldn't face dealing with the food?
- Do you find you are obsessed with food all day long?
- Do you ever feel nervous, anxious or guilty about what you eat?

Many people reading this book will have answered yes to some or all of those questions. And, while we are not suggesting that they need hospital treatment, it is a fact that anyone "on a diet" is losing touch with their body's natural instinct for food.

This is indeed a form of eating disorder, if a mild one. We have already written about

**"We learn to regard food as forbidden fruit and to deny our natural feelings of hunger"**

how the cycle of dieting and bingeing (putting on weight, dieting again and so on) is very bad for our bodies. But it is also bad for our minds. We learn to regard food as forbidden fruit, to feel guilty and to deny our natural feelings of hunger. Then, in compensation, we binge and eat huge amounts of food that bear no relation to our hunger or our body's need. This is not normal and may result from some unhappiness in our lives. But it is also a disorder that the diet industry is responsible for aiding and abetting.

There are two conditions named above: anorexia and bulimia. But it would be a mistake to regard them as two slightly different manifestations of the same problem. Dr Janet Treasure is Senior Lecturer in Eating Disorders at the Maudsley Hospital in London. She says that bulimia is massively on the increase and is ten times more common than anorexia. She points to two studies that have now proved bulimia is an illness caused by dieting. Anorexia, on the other hand, is much rarer and its causes are more difficult to tie down. So what is bulimia?

Bulimia nervosa means "eating like an ox through nervousness". Anorexics often become bulimics. Bulimia is chiefly associated with:

- bingeing on large amounts of food, particularly "forbidden" foods such as biscuits, cakes, chocolate, nuts and crisps
- subsequent remorse
- doing anything to combat the excess calories from the bingeing sessions, including



Barbie doll: her workout videos encourage the very young to start seeking "perfect" figures

starvation, self-induced vomiting, compulsive exercise and excessive use of laxatives (as many as a hundred a day).

● acute sensitivity to weight-change and body shape. Some long-term bulimics do not need to put two fingers down their throat to vomit — they can vomit at will. Unlike anorexics, sufferers do not tend to be underweight. They

control their body weight by compulsive over-eating and then purging. Some of the symptoms are similar to anorexia but there are specific health problems:

- constant vomiting causes mineral deficiencies in the body, particularly potassium and sodium
- stomach acid passing

through the mouth: dissolves tooth enamel and causes advanced tooth decay.

- puffy face caused by swollen salivary glands
- irregular heartbeats
- muscle weakness
- kidney damage
- stomach rupture
- dehydration
- epileptic fits
- laxative abuse can lead to persistent stomach pains and long-term constipation.

Bulimia has been estimated to affect as many as 100,000 women aged between 15 and 45. Bulimics tend to be older than anorexics — typically women in their early to middle twenties who were overweight as children. It is particularly common among career women and it is on the increase. Male bulimia is also rising.

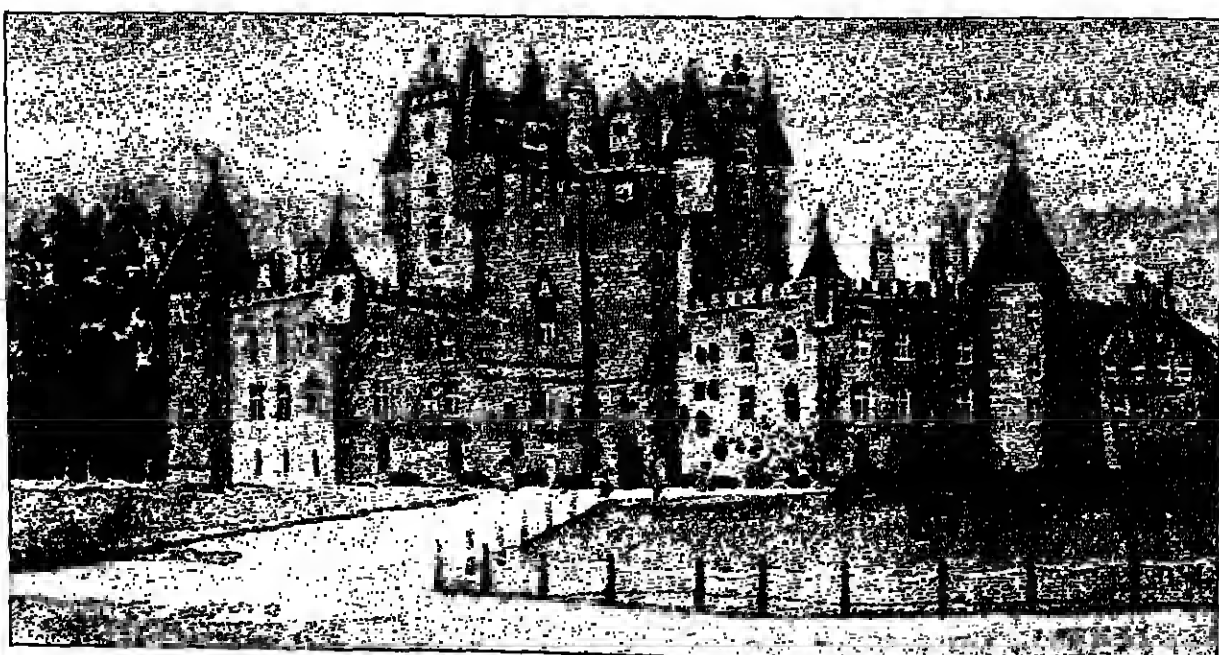
● An edited extract from *You Don't Have to Diet* by Dr Tom Sanders and Peter Bazalgette, to be published next week by Bantam (£5.99). All rights reserved.

## TOMORROW

Weigh of all flesh: those pernicious pills, potions and magic cures that will never help you to lose body fat

WIN A WEEKEND IN SCOTLAND WITH THE TIMES

## Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz



Glamis Castle: claims to be the most haunted castle in Scotland

For lovers of all things Scottish, the countryside, the history and the poetry but most of all the whisky

Lovers of the annual Aberlour Malt Whisky competition will have to re-direct and re-apply their talents this year. The usual competition is bigger, harder, more detailed and longer than ever before. And it now encompasses many more subjects.

In celebration of all things Scottish, *The Times* is proud to present the first ever Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz. We have teamed up with the classic Speyside malt yet again to bring you further reason to revere, respect and relish Scotland. After all, a country can not be judged by its whisky alone.

## HOW TO ENTER

EVERY day this week *The Times* will publish ten questions and today's questions are printed to the right. When you have the answers to all 50 questions, send them with your name and address to: The Times/Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz, 18-19 Whitefriars Street, London EC8 2NG, to arrive no later than Monday, January 10, 1994. The winner will be chosen from all correct entries received by this date. Normal Times Newspaper competition rules apply.

## ABERLOUR

### PRIZES

● The first correct entry drawn from the "hot" will win a tailor-made sporting weekend for two in Scotland. This can either be golfing, fishing or simply touring the distilleries.

● The second and third all-correct entries drawn will win a weekend for two on Speyside, the home of Aberlour. Winners will fly to Aberdeen and spend two nights at the Craigellachie Hotel.

● The next 50 all-correct answers drawn will receive a special Aberlour/Riedel glass pack, with a 25cl bottle of Aberlour Single Malt and two malt whisky glasses.

● Plus, a further 50 correct entries will win a bottle of Aberlour Single Malt.

● Everyone with all-correct answers will receive a miniature of Aberlour.

● Plus, everyone who enters will receive a £2-off voucher for their next purchase of Aberlour.

### QUESTIONS

11. Where did Mary Queen of Scots last sleep in Scotland, before leaving for France from Solway in 1568?
12. Which saint made a sign of the cross to save a servant from an attack by Nessie, the Loch Ness monster?
13. When was Aberlour distillery founded?
14. As well as English, many languages have been used in Scotland throughout history. Name three.
15. Where are the ancient headquarters of the Campbells?
16. Who did Robert the Bruce murder in 1306, in order to be crowned King of the Scots and Robert I?
17. How old was James I when he was crowned and anointed?
18. Name Scotland's most celebrated Victorian missionary and explorer.
19. Who was "the uncrowned King of Scotland"?
20. Which member of the current Royal family was born at Glamis Castle?

هكذا من الأصل



NEWS IN BRIEF

Seven hurt in City gas blast

At least seven people, including one woman, were injured in a gas explosion in the City of London yesterday, police said. The blast occurred at a restaurant near Liverpool Street Station. The explosion was caused by a gas leak from a boiler. The restaurant was closed for several days. The injured people are being treated in hospital.

Father charged

A 41-year-old father of three was charged with the murder of his 11-year-old son yesterday. The boy was found dead in his bedroom. The father is being held in custody. The police are investigating the case.

Solicitor guilty

A solicitor has been found guilty of fraud after a trial. The solicitor was charged with obtaining money by false means. The judge sentenced him to prison. The case was heard in the Crown Court.

Bet shop death

A man was found dead in a bet shop yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The shop was closed for several days.

Dirty business

A man has been charged with a series of frauds. The man was charged with obtaining money by false means. The judge sentenced him to prison. The case was heard in the Crown Court.

Hama drag

A man was found dead in a drag boat yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The boat was found in a river.

Double je

A man was found dead in a double je yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The car was found on a road.

Fire death

A man was found dead in a fire yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The fire occurred in a house.

Railway close

A railway line was closed yesterday. The closure was due to a signal failure. The railway was closed for several hours.

Siege man

A man was found dead in a siege yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The siege occurred in a house.

Fire death

A man was found dead in a fire yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The fire occurred in a house.

Railway close

A railway line was closed yesterday. The closure was due to a signal failure. The railway was closed for several hours.

Siege man

A man was found dead in a siege yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The siege occurred in a house.

Fire death

A man was found dead in a fire yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The fire occurred in a house.

Railway close

A railway line was closed yesterday. The closure was due to a signal failure. The railway was closed for several hours.

Siege man

A man was found dead in a siege yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The siege occurred in a house.

Fire death

A man was found dead in a fire yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The fire occurred in a house.

Railway close

A railway line was closed yesterday. The closure was due to a signal failure. The railway was closed for several hours.

Siege man

A man was found dead in a siege yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The siege occurred in a house.

Fire death

A man was found dead in a fire yesterday. The man was 45 years old. The police are investigating the death. The fire occurred in a house.

Railway close

A railway line was closed yesterday. The closure was due to a signal failure. The railway was closed for several hours.



The subtle shades of Monet's *Waterlilies* painted in 1904. Attempting the same subject 16 years later he found cataracts had drastically muddled his vision

# A dazzling impression

The commonest of all eye operations can have far-reaching effects on the patient's perception of the colour spectrum, writes Dr James Le Fanu

Take off that bandage, nurse, and let's find out what he can see," boomed the voice of the senior surgeon at Moorfield's Eye Hospital, London. "I can remember that moment to this day," recalled the patient, Dr A.E. Clark-Kennedy, a distinguished physician from the nearby London Hospital who, a few days earlier, had had a cataract removed from his left eye.

"The first thing that struck me was the face and particularly the colours of the pretty girl who took the bandage off. The second was the almost dazzling whiteness of the registrar's white coat. Third, it was the brilliant blue of the surgeon's suit — and I always thought he dressed so discreetly. And then I realised the appalling vulgarity of my multi-coloured striped pyjamas."

Dr Clark-Kennedy's initial reaction was very typical. The most striking impact of the operation is of being overwhelmed by the sense of colour. But not just any colour. The yellow cataract makes the world seem dirty but also cuts off light at the blue end of the spectrum — and over the years the retina tries to adapt by increasing its sensitivity to blues and greens. So when the cataract is removed, the world appears clean and blue.

"On the drive home, the countryside had gained a brilliance I did not know it possessed," Dr Clark-Kennedy wrote. "I had no idea the sky was so blue or the grass so green. All the roads now looked blue. Smoke looked a lovely blue, as did distant clouds."

This blurring of visual acuity and alteration in the perception of colour is dramatically illustrated in the paintings of the great French impressionist Claude Monet (1840-1926). The same subject — the Japanese bridge in his garden at Giverny — painted first at the age of 60 is full of detail and subtle shades, but ten years

later the colours are confused, and the shape of the bridge itself is scarcely discernible.

Writing in 1918, Monet observed: "I no longer perceive colours with the same intensity. Reds appear muddy to me, pinks insipid. What I paint is more and more dark, and when I compare it to my former work, I am seized by a frantic rage and slash at my canvases with a penknife."

He was reduced to reading the labels on his tubes of paint to distinguish the colours on his palette to avoid mistakes. A French critic at the time commented: "Monet's coloured symphony becomes increasingly monochromatic."

Monet's visual problems reached a climax in 1920 when he was persuaded by the French Prime Minister, Georges Clemenceau, to paint a series of the water-lily pond at Giverny as a gift to the nation. He soon realised that he could not successfully complete the project: "I was no longer capable of making something of beauty," he wrote. But Clemenceau urged him to seek the help of a Paris ophthalmologist, Charles Coutela, who advised an operation.

By modern standards, cataract surgery was still very primitive. The eye was anaesthetised with cocaine, the knife went in at the margin of the iris and the lens with its cataract was scooped out. In skilled hands, the technique took five seconds.

To ensure adequate healing of the wound, the patient then lay immobilised

for ten days with bandages over the eyes. Monet's stepson later described this post-surgical ordeal: "Lying flat in bed, without even a pillow, sandbags were placed on either side of the head to ensure it did not move. A guardian watched over him at night to converse with him, so he did not succumb to psychosis from lack of contact with the outside world."

With his visual acuity restored, Monet was now afflicted with a problem of colour perception. "I now see blue," he wrote. "I no longer see red or yellow. This annoys me terribly, because I know these colours exist. I know that on my palette there is some red, some yellow and a certain violet. It's filthy, it's dispiriting, I see nothing but blue."

And indeed in the period immediately following his operation Monet's paintings are very blue. One of his house at Giverny, contrasts very sharply with almost the same picture painted a year previously which is full of reds and yellows.

To restore an appropriate sense of colour, Monet was advised to wear glasses with a yellow/green tint that would partially simulate the colour interference of his yellow cataracts, but would at least mitigate the "filthy blueness" which now overwhelmed his perception of the world.

This seemed to work: a year before his death he was able to write to Dr Coutela: "I'm very happy to inform you that finally I have recovered my true vision. In brief,

I'm seeing everything again and working with ardour."

Almost 30 years after Monet's operation, the modern era of cataract surgery was inaugurated by Harold Ridley, an ophthalmic surgeon at St Thomas'. During the Second World War he had observed that penetrating glass injuries to the eye sustained by fighter pilots elicited virtually no inflammatory reaction. Why not, he speculated, remove the dirty yellow lens and replace it with a plastic implant, thus obviating the need to wear spectacles or contact lenses.

Cataract extraction with an intraocular implant is now much the commonest of all eye operations — over a million are performed every year in America alone. It takes longer — 50 minutes rather than five seconds — but thanks to micro-surgical stitches the patient can usually return home the same day. Bandaging the eye is no longer necessary.

Still, for those with a heightened artistic sensitivity to colour, it is advisable to have a pair of tinted yellow glasses to tone down the overwhelming blueness of their newfound world.

Older mothers may find the going rather tough

## Is having twins at 59 too late?

NOT many women of nearly 60 expect to exchange power dressing for maternity clothes, and the boardroom for the labour ward. At an age when most pensioners might think it more fitting to emulate Miss Marple in a secluded retirement, an unnamed 59-year-old woman has outraged many doctors and lay people by giving birth to twins.

The children will not be identical, for two donated ova had been fertilised. There is no concern for the physical health of the twins who are the product of the fertilisation of a 25-year-old Italian donor's ova by the sperm of the woman's 45-year-old husband.

Doctors are, however, expressing doubts as to whether a woman of this age has the patience to care for a baby and about the style, and even the amount, of affection that she may be able to display later.

Many 60-year-olds are not too good at playing bears on the nursery floor, and septuagenarians don't always make the best companions for 11-year-olds when playing football on the lawn, or war games on the computer.

By the time the twins are teenage students their mother will have entered the age of emotional detachment, and may find it hard to identify with their problems. According to reports, the anonymous businesswoman decided to have children because she felt that her maternal instincts were unsatisfied, and that her life had been incomplete. The strength of these maternal instincts has to be judged in the light of the knowledge that they were not in evidence for her childbearing years.

Time alone will show whether the reality of motherhood will measure up to its expectations: twins are not easy for they owe almost as great an emotional allegiance to each other as to their parents. Some parents therefore find them unrewarding.

Nor will these children be genetically linked to their mother and she may find that at 80 when confronted by normal adolescent rebellion and potential parental rejection, that it is not, as usual, kept in check by the thought shared by both parents and children that they are linked by an indissoluble union.

For generations doctors have believed that the factor limiting pregnancies in older women, who are still ovulating, was increasing degenerative changes in the uterus. Within the past 15 years it has been shown that it is not an ageing womb which limits the ease with which women conceive, but the state of her eggs (the ova).

The ova, which have been present since birth in a woman's ovary, start to decline in quality long before the menopause and the end of ovulation.

Modern medicine has demonstrated that a shrivelled old uterus in a post-menopausal woman can be rejuvenated by the correct hormones, oestrogen and progesterone, so that it becomes as thick and welcoming to any fertilised egg as that of a 25-year-old.

It now therefore needs a gynaecologist to find a younger woman prepared to donate her shiny, youthful eggs for *in vitro* fertilisation for it to be possible for an ageing woman to have a test tube baby.

The post-menopausal woman may also need supplementary doses of human chorionic gonadotrophin — a pituitary hormone — after implantation of usually three eggs. These doses will tide her over until the placenta is able to produce the same hormones which would be produced naturally by a younger woman during her pregnancy.

Twin pregnancies always carry additional risks, mainly those associated with the actual delivery and prematurity. The over-expanded maternal uterus often goes into labour early, and thereafter labours less effectively, than in a normal single pregnancy. In mothers of twins the blood pressure, particularly if the woman is older, is more likely to rise to abnormal levels with consequent damage to the placenta and a reduction of the oxygen supply to a developing baby, a loss which can be crucial at the end of pregnancy, or during the rigours of delivery.

THIRTY-SIX weeks would be the optimum time for delivery for the unnamed woman, and indeed she and her doctors have done well to preserve this pregnancy for so long. The babies would have been well developed, and by delivering by Caesarean section would have been spared the mechanical hazards of a vaginal delivery as well as the final three weeks of a pregnancy when placental insufficiency and oxygen deprivation would have been a real possibility.

One benefit to society which may stem from this case is the publicity which was given to ova donation. Ova are desperately needed for younger women who have had a premature menopause, or who suffer from such diseases as Turner's syndrome, a hereditary chromosomal abnormality which results in, among other problems, absent ovaries.

Dr Sandy MacAra, page 12



DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD

## TAKE A THOMAS COOK AT THAT!

# 15% OFF

## ALL CRUISE HOLIDAYS

• INCLUDING P&O CRUISES, PRINCESS CRUISES, CUNARD AND ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISE LINE. PLUS ONLY £1 DEPOSIT PER PERSON.\*

Call into your nearest Thomas Cook or Phone 0733 310085, 6 days a week\* quoting TC111.

**Thomas Cook**

\*Low deposit and discounts apply to all summer 94 brochure holidays, cruises, and flights. Subject to each customer purchasing Thomas Cook Recommended Insurance when booking. Low deposit is per person. Balance of deposit is due by 31 March 94 or upon cancellation. Low deposit and discounts are available for a limited period only. \*Offer subject to taking Thomas Cook Recommended Insurance. For full conditions of all offers, please ask our staff. \*Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm, Saturday 9am - 5pm, Open 9am - 5pm on Bank Holidays. ABTA 20606 / ATOL 265

Informed consent can hinder medical progress, says Aileen Ballantyne

## When doctors have to guess

services at University College and Middlesex Hospital, and Robert Souhami, Professor of Oncology at University College London Medical School.

Their article does not advocate secret trials, but questions the principle that a patient must be fully informed of every possible risk, benefit and disadvantage of a new treatment option before he or she consents to take part in a clinical trial.

"What we are doing is throwing down the gauntlet to the ethicists and challenging one of the 'sacred cows' of medicine: the principle of informed consent," said Dr Tobias.

Their position is backed by Professor Michael Baum, chairman of the breast cancer trials group for the United Kingdom Co-ordinating Committee on Cancer Research, which advises the government. Professor Baum stresses, in a letter shortly to be published by the BMJ, that the public must recognise how much uncertainty is contained in all medical treatment.

The alternative to the form of intellectual honesty advocated by Dr Tobias and Professor Souhami, he says, is for us to be treated "according to the whim of the general surgeon".

This, Professor Baum argues, is what happened to thousands of women during the late 1970s and early 1980s when medical science was unsure whether mastectomy or breast-conserving techniques were the better form of treatment. During that time,

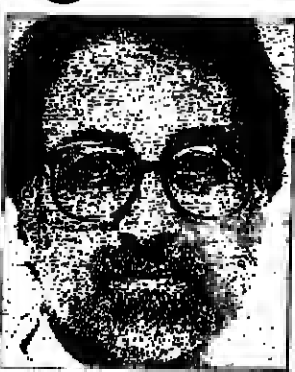
diathermy are known to be as effective as mastectomy for most forms of breast cancer. But, as Professor Souhami points out, that knowledge was only gained as a result of a trial involving 2,000 women in America, in which women were randomly allocated to one or other form of treatment. The issue of fully informed consent, in this case, he believes, may have been "fudged".

The benefits of lumpectomies versus mastectomies for breast cancer may have been largely settled, but medicine is still riddled with more uncertainties and doubts than most of us realise. The conventional treatment for advanced cervical cancer, for example, is radiotherapy. The addition of chemotherapy can shrink cervical tumours in up to 70 per cent of patients, but experience with other cancers suggests that tumour shrinkage may not result in improved cure or survival rates.

The only way to find out which treatment is better would be randomly to allocate two groups of women with cervical cancer to each treatment, then follow their progress.

As with the mastectomy versus lumpectomy study, recruitment is proving a problem. "Already, in Britain, there are signs that doctors are adding chemotherapy to the treatment without knowing whether it is better or not," said Dr Tobias.

That is not the way medicine should be practised. But unless the public face up to the fact that medical treatment will never advance without randomised clinical trials, we may find ourselves over-treating or under-treating lethal forms of cancer without ever knowing which treatments will save more lives."



Dr Tobias: gauntlet

Dr Tobias, Professor Baum and others tried to mount a large trial with randomly allocated treatment involving 2,000 women, to find out which was better. But the rule of fully informed consent meant that they had to be told that, on the one hand, there was a chance they might lose a breast unnecessarily, and, on the other, if breast-conserving techniques were employed, that they might lose their life unnecessarily.

After three years only 150 women had agreed to take part and the doctors had to abandon the trial. The thousands of women outside the trial, who developed breast cancer during that period when opinion was divided on the relative merits of the two treatments, were "kept in the dark", Professor Baum says, and "treated by mastectomy or breast-conserving techniques according to the whim of the general surgeon".

Today, lumpectomy and ra-

**DISCOVER THURSDAY PLANTATION TEA TREE OIL**

TEA TREE OIL IS BECOMING A HOUSEHOLD NECESSITY AS THE PUREST SOURCE OF ANTISEPTIC HERBAL HYGIENE IN A BOTTLE. INSERT ON THURSDAY PLANTATION. AVAILABLE FROM YOUR LOCAL HEALTH FOOD STORE, HOLLAND & BARRETT OR QUALITY CHEMIST NATIONWIDE.



## Lynne Truss



■ Thanks heavens for friends. I use their best stuff and they don't get all twisted about it

As I am perplexed again. A few weeks ago, a writer chum phoned up to ask for some help with a difficult ethical question. So naturally I pulled a straight face immediately, rested my fingertips lightly together (tricky when holding a receiver) and suggested she proceed. A friend had left an expensive winter coat in her flat, by mistake, she explained, then flown abroad for six weeks. "I see," I said, nodding thoughtfully. "And so?"

My chum's question was this: if I were in her position, would I wear the coat? I was so shocked by the very idea that I instantly abandoned my rational objective Michael Ignatieff impersonation. "No," I said flatly. "No, I would not." "Why?" she asked.

Well, I said, first I would be worried about the safety of the coat, you know, down the shops, bloke on a ladder, in of paint, Norman Wisdom, ha ha ha. Second, I would be almost suicidally flummoxed in company if anyone remarked: "Nice coat, where's it from?" But really and honestly, I wouldn't wear it because it wasn't mine.

Now my friend was much taken with this tin-of-paint idea. When she rang other people for further ethical and practical viewpoints, she found that the irrational Fear of Pain not only entered other people's neurotic purview, but could easily be brought to dominate it.

But what she didn't find, apparently, was anyone else who said, "No I wouldn't wear it because it isn't mine." So she wore the coat, recklessly defied the malign god of mag-nolia gloss, and eventually decided to write a piece for *The Guardian* about the whole damn thing.

And my point (at last) is this. She told me she was writing an article in which I would — nameless, of course — appear. She read me her description of my response, and told me precisely when the piece would be published.

Such careful, respectful and scrupulous behaviour put me to shame. Because when it comes to other people's anecdotes — other people's "stuff" which might come in handy to illustrate a point in a column or a story — I rip it straight off the hanger without asking, shout "Yes! This will do nicely!", and publish it in a newspaper. Which is the exact equivalent of wearing it to the open day at the Jackson Pollock Primal Hurl Art Therapy Group for Particularly Messy Serial Killers.

Luckily, my friends are more broad-minded than me. I parade their best stuff in public and they don't get all twisted about it. The Polish poet Czeslaw Milosz once said that when a writer is born into a family, the family is finished. Equally, when a columnist has bosom friends, they find that they no longer have a thing to call their own.

Every anecdote they utter goes directly into the writer's mental dressing-up box, and though any single item may not re-emerge for a decade, it will undoubtedly turn up again one day — albeit crumpled, stained, mildewed, or laced with holes — to the owner's muffled astonished cry of, "But surely that was mine originally, wasn't it?"

It is no extension whatever to claim (as I do, frequently) that so long as I attribute stories to "a friend" so long as I don't tell the story against the originator — well, then it's all perfectly OK. In her Great Left-Behind Coat Ethics Research, my friend encountered precisely such casualistic chicanery, and I poured scorn on all of it.

For instance, perhaps it would be a different ethical kettle of fish if the item were not a coat but a frock? Or if the owner were the sort of person who suffers from amnesia? Or if you only allowed yourself to wear the coat outdoors on National No Decorating Day? Bah, I reasoned, the matter is simple. If it doesn't belong to you, leave it in a cupboard. The rest is sophistry.

And so here I am, writing about my friend's article about borrowing things without asking. And did I ask her? Of course I didn't.

"Yes! This will do nicely!" I yelled excitedly, as I tried it on for size, did a quick twirl, and hacked a few inches off the sleeves with the bread-knife. Such a gigantic fuss about nothing! As the great Nobel Prize winner Czeslaw Milosz might have remarked, if they didn't want me to wear it, they really shouldn't have left it lying about.

A natural birth or a supernatural event? Dr Sandy MacAra pleads for tolerance towards the older mother

## Better a fit mother of 59 than an unfit one of 19

Now Sarah and Abraham were old and well stricken in age... the Lord visited Sarah... Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son." (Genesis, Chapter 18, verse 11 and Chapter 21, verses 1 and 2)

A natural birth or a supernatural event? A recent "natural" birth to a woman of 55 attracted widespread publicity. Now on Christmas Day a woman aged 59 delivers twins, conceived reportedly as a consequence of in vitro fertilisation (IVF) performed in Italy, and today, a woman of 64, also in Italy, is reported to be pregnant. Any birth might surely be regarded as an essentially private domestic matter, although others might rejoice with a woman granted her dearest wish, especially on such an auspicious date.

Does the fact of the mother's age alone justify public interest? Does the additional factor of the assisted process of IVF somehow raise the threshold of legitimate concern, and if so why? Is not this mother and her family like any other not entitled to exercise their autonomy? Are they not entitled to their privacy and to freedom from intrusion by a prying press and pompous pontificators?

To set against the principles of autonomy and privacy there is a consideration of the paramountcy of the interests of the children, who did not choose to be born. It is natural — that

word again — to envisage the "normal" family as headed by young parents, or at least with a young mother. What quality of life will a young child have with a mother in her sixties, it is asked. How will a woman in her seventies cope with normal adolescence? On the balance of possibilities, problems might indeed be expected.

Yet many older people do look after their grandchildren and other young people following the loss of parents by tragedy or the breakdown of a parental relationship and equip themselves well. Relative youth is no guarantee of parental function or competence, as repeated reports of abandoned and neglected children forcibly remind us.

Age is arguably a factor in child rearing. But other qualities surely matter more: qualities like responsibility, stability, security, experience and most vital of all love and care? But epidemiologists will show that older

parents have an increased risk of death or disability while the child is still dependent. However, prediction is an inexact science when applied to individuals. Better, it may be argued, a fit healthy 59-year-old than an unfit, unhealthy 19-year-old.

Two fundamental points need to be made. First, any decision about assisted birth, whatever the age of the woman, is primarily a matter for the patient — and by extension her close family — and her doctor. It must remain the patient's right to seek whatever help she wants. Likewise, the first responsibility of doctors is to the individual patient, by whom they are pledged to do their best and to whom they must strive to do no harm. The patient is not likely to distinguish between the medical and social considerations and implications of her quest.

The doctor will be guided principally by the patient's clinical need but will be wise to place the medical indications

within the context of the patient's overall circumstances. The patient should be encouraged to consult other members of her family, close friends, spiritual advisers, anyone who can help.

When circumstances are unusual, the doctor might be expected to consult other experienced colleagues for advice. Ultimately, it is for patient and doctor separately to address their consciences and together to agree on the most appropriate course of action.

The second fundamental point concerns the circumstances in which society as a whole might legitimately take an interest and express a view. Where resources for treatment are severely limited, not everyone can be helped. Sadly, in the NHS, resources for IVF are so scarce that only a minority of patients who might benefit, can be offered treatment.

In this situation, priority must clearly

be given to those patients who meet two critical criteria: relative medical and clinical "need" and the likelihood of a satisfactory outcome. Well aware that in every such preferential choice for some, there is a sacrifice for others — as Kierkegaard reminds us — the doctor will consult wisely and agonise about his decision. No committee can help the patient or the doctor at this stage.

These two points beg a wider question. What priority should society give to problems of involuntary infertility? It is invariably argued by those who cannot conceive that there is a problem, because they themselves have no problem in conceiving, that there are already too many children in the world; that we would do better to look after them properly before adding to their number.

More compassionately, it is argued that IVF should be used only in the last resort when all other treatment has failed and that more attention should be given to preventing infertility in the first place. Amen to that, but there remains a significant number of despairing couples for whom there is no other hope of having the child they crave.

These atypical Christmas cases will serve us well if they draw attention to the plight of such couples.

● Dr MacAra is chairman of the Council of the British Medical Association.

## The necessity of bears

The beasts are not quite as cuddly as the Teddies of childhood affection, but who would deny them their place on earth?

Bears, now, you didn't expect me to be writing about bears, did you? Nor did I, to tell the truth, but I have just found a crumpled cutting about two students who were camping in the Yosemite National Park, in California, when a bear appeared, a black female 8 ft high, giving every sign of eating the two youths. Well, you wouldn't expect me not to take the opportunity of reciting d'propos, would you?

When the Himalayan peasant meets the bear in his pride, He shouts to scare the monster, who will often turn aside, But the she-bear thus accosted reads the peasant's tooth and nail For the female of the species is more deadly than the male.

The two took refuge in an outdoor lavatory — it's a good thing that California is house-proud — and remained there all night, as the bear prowled around. At daybreak, the beastie decided that there would be no breakfast for her, and trotted off to look for easier fodder.

But there is more to a hungry bear than meets the eye, not to say the claws. To start with, the animal is immensely old: it was developing 25 million years ago ("Who hath measured the ground?"). It is inexorably declining, in the face of the noise and mess of civilisation, though slowly, and now that the world has become more careful not to accelerate the decline, it is in some areas almost thriving. Nor can bears be lumped together on the principle that when you have seen one bear you have seen them all: there is a huge variety of the furry fellows, from the familiar polar bear to the enchantingly named cinnamon bear, not forgetting the sloth bear, which is presumably the one that hangs upside down with a card on its back reading "Do not disturb". And then there is the grizzly bear, whose Buffon form name alone strikes fear into the stoutest heart: *Ursus horribilis*.

If you meet one, you might pray for the sight of a lavatory, though it is unlikely that you would get to it in time: the bear — *horribilis* indeed — can run at 30 miles an hour, and I bet you can't. It is said by the experts that the bears usually try to avoid human beings, but the human beings would be wise to take the news with some care: not long ago, I saw on television a group of zoologists who were studying the polar bear, to which end they had cocased themselves

in cages with very stout bars: their comrades had retired to a safe distance, and those behind bars awaited whatever might occur.

The scene was as striking as it was alarming. As from nowhere, a bear appeared and shuffled towards what it presumably thought would be a refreshing meal, whereupon another appeared, and then a dozen or so, all walking around the intrepid figures in the cages. The programme finished before the obvious question could be asked: how did the engaged seekers out of knowledge get out of their cages without being eaten?

Grizzlies are the largest, as well as the fiercest, of bears. They can weigh more than 12 hundredweight and stand 9 ft high. They are solitary creatures; in the mating season the male is very solicitous, but when birth is finished, the partners go their separate ways.

It is strange that so fierce and even terrible a creature has been welcomed into the nursery: toy bears must be among the most cuddled of all soft toys. It is almost, though not quite, certain that the Teddy bear did get its name from President Theodore Roosevelt. (Which reminds me: the late Lady Diana Cooper once tried to convince me that "haberdasher", which is one of the oldest words in the language, with has no accepted etymology, came from German pedlars who settled in Britain selling things like pins and ribbons, their pavement cry making "haberdasher" a corruption of "Ich habe das hier!" I regret that I was not convinced.)

The horrible sport of bear-baiting has an appallingly long lineage. There are drawings of the entertainment from the 14th century. The word "beargarden", denoting some kind of uproar, comes from the sport. There, a chained bear (or bull) was attacked by savage dogs: there is a bloodcurdling extra in the practice of stuffing the pitiable animal's nose full of pepper. Gradually, the horrors of bear-baiting penetrated the coarseness of the time and, with the Puritans leading the abolitionists, the sport declined, though not before Macaulay made his famously cynical comment: "The Puritan hated bear-baiting, not because it gave pain to the bear, but because it gave pleasure to the spectators". Bear-baiting in Britain was finally outlawed by legislation in 1835.

There are bears in the Pyrenees; I take it that these are the nearest to us, for surely the Germans can now call only



on bear. The number of the Pyrenees bears is small, and getting smaller; the experts say that they are too few to breed successfully, so that unless bears can be imported and coaxed into living and breeding, they will go the way of the dodo. Moreover, there is a furious battle over a new road through the Pyrenees. Conservationists argue that that would finish off the last of the bears, but the hard-headed Pyrenean peasant is fight-

ing for the road, which will bring, or is at least expected to bring, a good deal of prosperity to the area. I have lost touch with the story; have the bears won, or the roadmakers?

We British are notorious suckers for any furry animal: we will merrily pick up a stoat or a mink and tinkle it under the chin, which accounts, I believe, for the number of people in this country with only one ear or one eye. But not

long ago, there was a bear story that truly touched any heart not made of granite.

In Turkey, the rules about the treatment of animals are carried out — how shall I put it? — somewhat less than rigidly, fiercely and passionately. Thus, when a troupe of dancing bears was seen, and seen being ill-treated by their owner, the British bystanders vowed to do something about it, and that something grew from a sad "Ah, poor things!" to an enormous, and mediculously executed kidnapping of the unfortunate beasts.

Nor could this be called meddling in other people's business: the horrible torture sustained by the animals — in particular, one bear called Black Cloud — should have been stopped long before. (The bear's handler was wont to beat the animal savagely with a pole, he dragged it literally by the nose, it was fed chained in freezing rain, and its food was stale bread. Elsewhere, a row of eight dancing bears was chained almost permanently to a sea-wall. In Britain the owner of the animals would have been in prison in no time; indeed, only a few weeks ago, a man was sent to prison for hideously neglecting the seaside donkeys from which he made his money.)

The rescue project went off without a hitch, and the rescued animals have been sent to wildlife sanctuaries and similar homes. And Turkey has promised to enforce its own laws.

I have always liked the circus: I don't think I have ever taken sides in the argument over it, and nobody can tell me that the performing seals aren't enjoying themselves showing off. But at one point I jibed, and that is when the bears themselves appear. My revulsion is caused not only by my suspicion that these animals have been beaten into compliance; I find it truly sickening to watch one of nature's noblest beasts dressed in frilly bloomers and riding bicycles.

The ecological fanatics, like any other fanatics, do their cause more harm than good. But you do not have to be a fanatic to think that it would be a pity if bears were to disappear entirely from the earth. True, two young men might demur — the two who started this story by having to spend the night hiding in a lavatory from an 8 ft bear. One of them particularly might demur rather more strongly, because he caught a blow from the bear, and when rescue came it was found that he needed 40 stitches. (Talk about a bear with a sore head.)

Everyone smiles at the famous stage direction in *The Winter's Tale*: "Exit, pursued by a bear." But nobody smiled at the bear in question when Peter Brook directed the play; a huge, savage creature faced us in the stalls, and we were more likely to shudder. Anyway, let Shakespeare have the last word:

Such tricks hath strong imagination. That, if it would but apprehend some joy, It comprehends some bringer of that joy. Or in the night, imagining some fear, How easy is a bush supposed a bear!

## Peer pressure

AS THE Prince of Wales agonises about his future, fellow peers have broached a possible solution. They suggest that he should emulate a former Prince of Wales by using the Upper House as a platform for his crusades.

The Prince of Wales has so far spoken only twice. In 1974, he made his maiden speech during a debate on sport and leisure.

A year later, he spoke with some prescience on problems posed by bored youngsters. But the prospect of more regular appearances on the cross benches by His Royal Highness is gaining ground among their Lordships.

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, the veteran peer who has known the Prince for almost 30 years, says: "I have taken the view for some time that he might take advantage of some of the debates to express his own views. He would be very welcome by all sides."

Like King Edward VIII before he acceded to the throne, the Prince of Wales, could also, says Cledwyn,

become involved in Lords committees. Of the present royal family, only the Duke of Gloucester speaks regularly. But Cledwyn insists: "Prince Charles would be made to feel at home very quickly."

Another to welcome a more active participation is the Tory hereditary peer, Lord Teviot. "It is high time he did speak again. He would be very welcome — even if he just turned up for lunch or dinner."

### Belloc letters

UNPUBLISHED lines from Hilaire Belloc — albeit rather rude — have come to light after the untimely death of the 3rd Viscount Wimborne at the age of 54.

The versatile Belloc, best remembered for his *Cautionary Tales* and *A Bad Child's Book of Beasts*, was Liberal MP for Salford before the First World War. At Westminster, he encountered fellow Liberal MP Ivor Guest, later to become the first Lord Wimborne, the victim of his verses.

The first reads:

We must assume the Lord knew best When he created Ivor Guest.

The second, equally derogatory, reads:

Grant, O Lord, eternal rest For Thy servant Ivor Guest. Never mind the where or how Only grant that it be now.

Quite why Belloc should have taken such a dislike is unclear. But A.N. Wilson, Belloc's biographer, believes they are genuine. "They sound completely authentic. He wrote lots of rude rhymes, some of which were fairly ob-



Hilaire Belloc new find



## DIARY

scene and anti-Semitic and which we wouldn't find funny nowadays."

Sloping off

MICHAEL HOWARD has a lot to answer for. The 38th Anglo-Swiss parliamentary skiing trip has run into trouble because the Whips have ordered MPs to return by January 1 to vote on the Home Secretary's Criminal Justice Bill.

And just as the parliamentarians entertained vague hopes of winning back from the Swiss the trophy for the parallel and giant slalom races. Captained by Tom King, the former defence secretary, the British contingent set out for Davos on January 4. Their star this year is undoubtedly the merchant banker, the 7th Earl of Verulam. Meanwhile, stalwarts such as Lord Orr-

Ewing, who at 81 recalls the days when skis were wooden, and Michael Ancram, are no snails on the slopes.

"We have had to juggle this because of the three-line whip on the 11th," admits treasurer Malcolm Moss. "We won in 1988, the first time for 13 years. But I don't know about this year. We can only hope."

Alberto Tomba eat your heart out.

### Bluff admissions

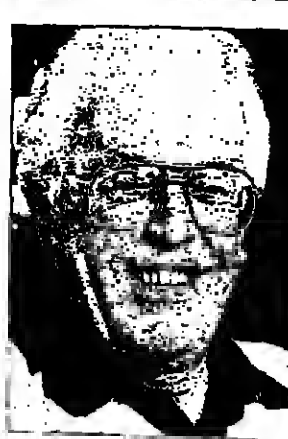
LORD Waddington, the bluff former Home Secretary now ensconced beneath a splendid plumed helmet as Governor of Bermuda, has been musing nostalgically on his days in Government. Like so many of his former Cabinet colleagues, the noble Lord cannot resist the temptation to put pen to paper. Unfortunately, he has

not found a publisher. "I don't think they are good enough for publication," he modestly admits. "But, yes, I am writing my memoirs. When the spirit moves me, I try to do a bit of work on them."

If they ever see the light of day, they could reveal that Waddington was "flabbergasted" when asked to join the Thatcher Cabinet.

Publishers might fight hardily for trenchant views on his predecessor as Home Secretary, Kenneth Baker. But they fear that, judging by the Governor's tight-lipped response to Bermuda's hot story of the moment — about a police guard who prays naked on the steps of Government House — shock revelations will be few.

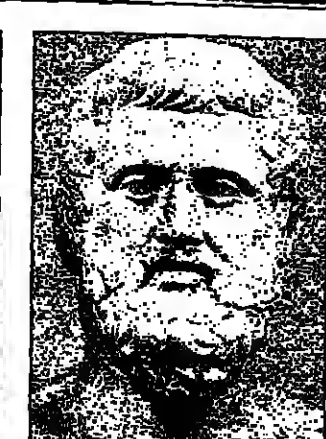
Was it simply coincidence that the Atherstone hunt made a courtesy call at the request of inhabitants to an old people's home owned by Leicestershire County Council yesterday? Horses and hounds gathered triumphantly in its car park at Orchard House, Market Bosworth, even though Leicestershire voted in September to ban hunting on its 10,000 acres.



### Farce masters find their historian

HAVING made a living from losing his trousers in public every night, Lord Rix (left) is putting his experiences to good use. Since leaving the troubled Arts Council drama panel in high dudgeon, the master of farce has been devoting himself to writing about his slapstick trade — with especial mention of his own exploits in the genre.

Rix was to have handed the first draft of his *History of Farce* to the publishers at the end of this month, but still has some way to go — perhaps because of the research that the



author has invested in it. "The first half goes back to Aristophanes [right], but not too deeply," he says. "Then it goes up to Charles Aul and it mentions Stoppard, Ayckbourn and even Pinter, who some people say used farce. When it comes to my turn, I write about myself but it's really about the others."

Rix now heads for Asia for a series of "platform performance" with his wife about his other work, *Tour de Farce*. "It's a good way of plugging the book. Better than those tedious literary lunches."

هكذا من الأصل





## CLINTON'S TROUBLES

Past dealings are casting a shadow over the White House

For the Clintons, trouble has not come simply this Christmas. The fresh allegations about Mr Clinton's philandering, which have grabbed the headlines and which he has conspicuously omitted to deny outright, are not in themselves crippling. The motives of the Arkansas state troopers are suspect; and none of the six women named has corroborated the claims. Even if proved, they would hardly rank with the record of Mr Clinton's hero, John F. Kennedy. And they would only add detail, admittedly somewhat lurid, to Mr Clinton's existing and part-admitted record as womaniser.

Coming after the Jennifer Flowers affair, these tales from Little Rock are still more than merely embarrassing. Even if, as he asserts, Mr Clinton made no attempt to buy their silence, he admits to trying to keep the troopers' story out of print. The public may again forgive him, as they did last year when he admitted "causing pain in my marriage"; but they will mark him as a man who seems incurably enamoured with the truth about his private life.

All this must be especially irritating for Mr Clinton, given the record of successes he can claim in his first year. They include the clinching of the two trade accords; a deficit-reduction package that, while flawed, is more credible than anything produced by three Republican administrations; and, at last, a law on gun control. Above all, whatever part luck may have had in it, Mr Clinton's pre-Christmas rise in the opinion polls confirms that he is taking much of the credit for a resurgent economy.

The presidency cannot yet be said to be imperilled. Yet the palpable nervousness in and around the White House is justified. The real problem is not sexual scandal. It is that other "old stories", as White House aides clumsily persist in calling them, are simultaneously taking on new life. Federal prosecutors are examining new dimensions to old questions about the Clintons' financial dealings, and their political and business connections with James McDougal, owner of Madison Guaranty, a small savings and loan company which collapsed in 1989 at a cost to the taxpayer of \$60 million.

Again, nothing is proven. But Mr McDougal helped to cover Mr Clinton's

personally acquired campaign debts in 1985, just when he needed (and got, with Mrs Clinton acting as one of the bank's attorneys) the permission of Arkansas state banking regulators for new ways to raise money for his already troubled bank. The bank's extra lease of life cost the public dear. To these questions must be added the continuing mystery surrounding the suicide last year of Vincent Foster, Hillary Clinton's close friend and law partner who joined the Little Rock band in the White House. The discovery that Clinton aides had spirited documents from Mr Foster's office concerning Whitewater, a company jointly owned by the Clintons and the McDougals which has become part of the federal investigation into Madison Guaranty, was made worse for the President by his evident reluctance to hand them over to the Justice Department. Federal investigators are looking into the possibility that it was one of a dozen shell companies through which deposits in Madison Guaranty were improperly channelled.

This revives another purported scandal from the campaign trail: and again, Mr Clinton is under growing pressure to make a fuller disclosure than was then made of Whitewater's accounts, and precise relationship to Madison Guaranty. The aide who scoffed that the Clintons' trainload of troubles would run into the buffers under the Christmas tree will almost certainly be proved wrong.

In this complicated web, the sums in question are small. About the 1985 campaign contributions, the truth may never be known, not least because campaign financial documents can be destroyed after five years under Arkansas law. The Clinton investment in Whitewater may, as they have always claimed, have been passive. Were Mr Clinton found to have confused private and public interest where Madison Guaranty was concerned, it would be a peculiarly American irony, since the nationwide S&L scandal of which this was a tiny part happened on the Republican watch. The President may yet see his way through — provided there is no trace of a "cover-up". The aura of Watergate hangs round the White House, and that is what he must act decisively to dispel.

## OUR WOMAN IN BELGRADE

Serbia does itself no favours by muzzling the press

There have been many casualties of the terrible wars in the Balkans. In Bosnia, thousands have died as the West, to its shame, has stood by. Many more, not only in Bosnia, have lost their homes and their livelihoods. And Serbia has paid dear for its revanchist nationalism: its own economy has been reduced to chaos, with inflation at 500,000%. Another casualty, however, and one that has not been stressed enough, has been the freedom of the press and media, both in Croatia and in Serbia.

The Serbian Ministry of Information has recently refused to extend the accreditation of Dossa Trevisan, the correspondent in Belgrade of *The Times*. Rarely has a government acted less in its own interest. Mrs Trevisan, a British national of mixed Serb and Croat parentage, has covered matters Eastern European for *The Times* for three decades, always with distinction. She is a trenchant and knowledgeable observer of President Slobodan Milosevic's government, and is one of the few journalists working in former Yugoslavia with a profound understanding of the Serbian mind. She has all the qualifications — long experience of the country, fluency in the language, and journalistic integrity — that Serbs frequently complain are lacking in reporters new to the tangled threads of Balkan politics.

The pro-government newspaper, *Politika*, has accused her of "political tendentiousness", and of reporting events in a manner

which ensured that Serbia had a bad press. There is no basis for these charges. Particularly inexcusable is its suggestion that Mrs Trevisan, whose family was forced to flee Zagreb when the Ustashi came to power in 1941, is biased towards Croatia. This latest action comes in the wake of previous incidents in which Mrs Trevisan has been harassed, intimidated and, on one appalling occasion, shot at, narrowly escaping serious injury. Despite this, her commitment to the free and full reporting from former Yugoslavia has never wavered.

The international press assumes particular importance in a country where much of the media is heavily controlled. These restrictions, despite the efforts of many Serbian journalists to report as fully as they can, have added to doubts about the fairness of the recent elections. Radio-Television Serbia was purged of over 1,000 perceived opponents of Mr Milosevic in January. The Serbian government is anxious that the sanctions imposed by the United Nations, prompted by its own violations of international law, should be lifted. It will hardly help its case by this gratuitous action. The world will only conclude that Serbia has a bad press because it has a repressive government. Serbia would be wise to rescind its decision to ban Mrs Trevisan from reporting on its affairs from Belgrade. Failure to do so will only confirm the pariah status from which Mr Milosevic is so anxious to emerge.

## THREE FRENCH HENS



The Dordogne evokes images of hens clucking by a crumbling farmhouse, of grizzled patriarchs quaffing rough wine, and of girls in flowered aprons. On the third of our Twelve Days of Christmas, the old song conjures up the enduring, if misleading, idyll of *la France profonde*.

Every Parisian claims to have roots still in the luscious provinces, and subscribes to the myth of hearty peasants dispensing folk wisdom in pungent accents. But France's dozy villages are growing ever dozier. Indeed, many are now comatose. Few of the country's rural communities consist of more than 400 people, and many are declining. Before the war, half of France lived in the country; today the number is down to one fifth.

Rusticity, however, lives on in the Gallic spirit. The French have all lived, vicariously, for a year in Provence, they grow up on the theococutions of Jean Giono, a twentieth century Thomas Hardy. But the real paysans are an endangered lot. Some 40,000 are in deep financial trouble, while the bulk of France's booming agricultural output is produced by agri-businessmen with giant holdings, grown fat on the Common Agricultural Policy.

Yet the *coq hardi* still crows defiantly. French cities are never allowed to forget their rural environs. With seasonal regular-

ity, the farmers bring their tractors, their manure carts and their grievances to the city centres, blocking motorways and pelting police with their produce. Rural wrath explodes in regular outrages, usually directed at hapless foreign competitors. Lorryloads of sheep make an occasional modern hecatomb. Officialdom is cowed. Partly because constituency boundaries fail to reflect urbanisation, the image of the small family holding, the fount of French culture and identity, holds politicians to ransom.

The roth also lives on in less aggressive ways. A year ago the Champs-Élysées was awash with waving corn, as Paris celebrated the nation's cornucopia. France honours its rural traditions with vigour, and the fad now is for country houses decorated in simple peasant styles, while the preferred cuisine — in a nation succumbing rapidly to packaged fast-foods — is that of *grand-mère*.

So the gift of three French hens, however impractical in today's high-rise apartments in St Denis, would touch a French heart. No matter that most French literature is testimony to the suffocation of provincial life; the dream of the countryside lives on in the waking hours of the French city. And many a Briton, too, has dreamed, with Keats, of a draught of vintage, dance and Provencal song.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 071-782 5000

## Detention of Jamaican visitors at Gatwick airport

From the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office

Sir, Your editorial today, "Welcome to Gatwick", suggested that the attention paid to the charter flight from Jamaica which arrived at Gatwick last Tuesday was racially motivated and that people were treated as under collective suspicion rather than as individuals. This was not the case.

Normal procedure is for people to present themselves to an immigration officer who makes an initial assessment on an individual basis. The immigration officer may then decide to grant entry immediately or make further enquiries which may result in entry being granted at a later stage or, in a minority of cases, in entry being refused.

That principle of individual assessment was maintained by immigration officers who, dealing with passengers arriving on the charter flight from Jamaica last week, No individual from the flight was detained without having first been assessed by an immigration officer.

What was different about the situation at Gatwick was that the individual initial assessment identified an unusually high number of cases where immigration officers were not satisfied that entry could be granted without further enquiries. The late arrival of the aircraft and a long delay in retrieving baggage because of an industrial dispute meant that there were substantial delays for everyone who arrived on the flight.

Immigration Service staff made every effort to deal with those people who had been identified as requiring further enquiries, but there were inevitable delays in resolving every case because of the numbers involved. Your suggestion that there was a refusal by the airport authorities to share information with relatives and friends is unfounded. I understand that Gatwick Airport Ltd made regular announcements about the baggage delay.

The Immigration Service opened a

telephone helpline at 11.55 am, barely 40 minutes after the first passenger was able to disembark, which dealt with 143 calls, and at 2.30 pm, once a comprehensive list of persons being held for further enquiries was available, a contact point on the arrivals concourse was opened where immigration staff gave information to friends and relatives.

It is misguided to make any connection between the Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993 and the Gatwick charter flight. There have been no changes to the instructions to immigration officers about the criteria for visitor cases generally or Jamaican citizens in particular since the Act.

This flight was not one of the regular flights from Jamaica, which are dealt with practically every day of the week with little difficulty. Last year we welcomed 26,000 Jamaican citizens to the United Kingdom and refused entry to only 400. We have absolutely no wish to treat Jamaican citizens or anyone else harshly, but where a passenger does not qualify for entry then it is right to refuse it.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES WARDLE,  
Home Office,  
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,  
December 27.

From Miss Louise Christian

Sir, Your leader rightly draws attention to the issue arising out of the mass detention and removal of Jamaicans visiting relations for Christmas. This is the removal by the new Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993 of rights of appeal on the merits of the decision for those who seek to enter the UK as visitors.

But there is another very important issue, which is the prima facie evidence that the operation was planned to take place with maximum speed to prevent people exercising their only remaining right of legal challenge, by way of judicial review.

I am a solicitor who succeeded in preventing my client, Mr Peter Hon-

egan, one of the detainees, being put on the specially chartered day flight, and secured his eventual release from custody. This was only after a protracted struggle by senior immigration officials.

On Christmas Eve they misled me by stating that the flight would go two days later, even while they were attempting to arrange for it to go that evening. Only a bomb scare at Gatwick airport prevented this.

They then continually promised further reviews of my client's case. These never emerged, ensuring that in order to pursue the matter I had to work all through Christmas and eventually to bother a High Court judge, Mr Justice Clark, by making a telephone application for leave for judicial review on Christmas Day.

Mr Honegan was treated like a criminal and spent the whole of Christmas Eve night and Christmas Day being held incommunicado in a police station cell, not even allowed phone calls from his relatives. They were refused permission to take him in Christmas lunch.

Nor did it end at 4.45 pm, when the order restraining his removal was granted. Immigration officials were still "too busy" to consider granting him temporary release, and only changed their avowed intentions not to bother thinking about it until the next day, when I strongly protested. He was released at midnight on Christmas Day. Meanwhile, the Boeing 737 specially laid on for the others had finally left at 9.30 pm.

The new Asylum Act also brings in a dramatically speeded-up procedure for dealing with asylum applicants, and it is intended to detain far more of them. The cynical adoption of measures to avoid people's right to recourse to legal remedies is deeply disturbing.

Yours faithfully,  
LOUISE CHRISTIAN,  
Christian Fisher (solicitors),  
42 Museum Street, WC1,  
December 27.

## London's 'choke zone'

From Mr Andrew Pharoah

Sir, Margot Norman, in "Beware the choke zone" (December 21), raises some important points of concern to all who live in cities; but she is wrong to write off the impact that catalytic converters will make.

Research from the highly respected Warren Spring Laboratory has found

that on average, a catalyst-equipped car reduces carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen emissions by 76 per cent, 81 per cent and 77 per cent respectively over a typical journey of 2.5 miles. So, even with predicted traffic growth, we will see a gross reduction in harmful vehicle emissions.

London's transport problems are not a result of over-investment in roads but of under-investment in all

transport. In fact, for every £1 the Government spends on roads in London it spends about £3 on public transport — which can hardly be described as a roads bias.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW PHAROAH  
(Director),  
Movement for London,  
Pillar House,  
194-202 Old Kent Road, SE1,  
December 21.

## Town hall review

From Sir John Banham, Chairman of the Local Government Commission for England

Sir, The town clerk and chief executive of Carlisle City Council (letter, December 21) has misunderstood my comments quoted (December 10) by your political reporter, Alice Thomson.

Over the past year a considerable amount of time and money has been spent by councils on the presentation of cases which were fundamentally flawed. In many instances, authorities have hired expensive consultants and lobbyists to produce glossy brochures and reports. It was to these aspects of presentation that I was particularly referring; it is the substance that matters, not the packaging.

The advice from the Local Government Commission for England repre-

sents the distillation of our experience to date and is intended to enable councils to focus on the key issues they must address. It was produced at the specific request of many authorities who, understandably, wished to minimise the time and effort they put into their representations to the commission.

The commission now expects local authorities to come forward with joint, realistic proposals for change to the existing structure in their area, or indeed to propose that no change should be made. The quality of the presentation as such is of secondary importance.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BANHAM,  
Chairman, Local Government Commission for England,  
Dolphin Court, 10/11 Great Turnstile, Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC1,  
December 21.

## Durham divined

From the Reverend Canon W. D. Jones

Sir, Discussion on the strengths and weaknesses of the Bishop of Durham's theological views (letters, December 18, 21, 23, 24) would be greatly helped if commentators, like your own religion correspondent, refrained from imprecise application of the phrase "basic tenets of the Christian faith" (report, December 20).

One would be hard put to it to include among these such matters as the visit of the wise men or the unavailability of a room at an inn. Surely, whatever our views, the valuable, if disturbing, service Bishop Jenkins is providing is to challenge us to discern what is of the essence of Christian belief and to distinguish it from what is a powerful and valuable symbol, evocative of awe and wonder, but not of basic credal status.

Yours faithfully,  
W. D. JONES,  
Hatfield Cottage, 14 Bath Road, Tetbury, Gloucestershire,  
December 24.

From Mr Ernest F. Crosswell

Sir, Since the essence of faith is belief in something for which there is little or no evidence, Sir David Crouch's statement (letter, December 21) that Bishop Jenkins "has made us think about our religious faith" does not make any sense.

Yours faithfully,  
E. F. CROSSWELL,  
78 Goldworthy Way,  
Slough, Berkshire,  
December 21.

Letters to the editor that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

## Royal reward

From Mr Ralph Blumenau

Sir, Mrs Jennifer Miller (letter, December 23) rightly says that the royal family have been ill rewarded for their service to the country.

We really could not be surprised if one day soon the entire family were to renounce the throne on the grounds that its continued existence now would appear to serve no function other than to feed the prurience, impertinence, and shameless intrusion of the aptly called rat pack of the press and, through them, of a corrupted public which is said to have an insatiable appetite for this sort of fare.

It seems that we do not deserve the many years of service given by Her Majesty the Queen or the long years of earnest preparation for the throne by the Prince of Wales.

Nor, surely, after what they have experienced, can the Prince and Princess of Wales wish that their children should already be exposed, and then

## Press and Parliament

From Mrs Virginia Taylor

Sir, Recent complaints about the decline in press reporting of Commons debates is of particular interest to me, as a direct descendant of John Wilkes. Wilkes did more than anyone to enshrine the principle of press freedom, including the right to publish parliamentary debates.

During the reign of King George III the publishing of debates was unlawful, although some papers took the risk. But the king, who disliked newspapers as a check on the power of government, declared: "It is highly necessary that this strange and lawless method of publishing debates in the papers should be put a stop to."

Wilkes disagreed. As an MP, he spent almost as much time in prison for his views on the liberty of the individual and the freedom of the

## Derring-do ahead for polar waters

From Mr M. B. F. Ranken

Sir, The bid by Trevor Potts and his three companions to emulate Sir Ernest Shackleton's epic rescue voyage to South Georgia (report, December 18) is a timely reminder of Shackleton's great expedition of 1914-16 to attempt a crossing of Antarctica.

Shackleton's plans were frustrated at the outset. In January 1915, by the entrapment in pack ice, at 77°S 35°W, of his new, Norwegian-built steam sealer *Endurance* (not *Endavour*, as stated in your report). In November, after drifting 570 nautical miles north, the *Endurance* was crushed and sank.

The 28-man crew then camped on the ice and drifted and dragged their three open boats some 250 miles to open water before sailing the last 100 miles to Elephant Island, in the South Orkneys, arriving the following April. Most of them had to subsist there until they were rescued on August 30, 25 months after leaving Millwall.

In the interim, Shackleton and five companions had completed a 16-day, 800-mile sail through storm and tempest in the whaler *James Caird* to the west coast of South Georgia. This was followed by a climb over 3,000ft mountains and glaciers to seek help at Stromness whaling station, which they reached on May 20. It is that astonishing voyage to South Georgia which Trevor Potts intends to repeat next year. In a near-replica of the *James Caird*.

Your earlier report (November 27) indicated that about January 19 Captain Alan Phillips expects to sail Britain's new ice patrol vessel, HMS *Endurance*, also Norwegian-built, close to the position where Shackleton's *Endurance* was trapped on the same date 79 years earlier — also probably the southernmost point so far penetrated by any HM Ship.

Sir Ernest's son, Lord Shackleton, was largely instrumental in persuading HMCG to purchase today's fine ship, which is deployed annually in support of Britain's scientific and other Antarctic interests. He will be waiting to hear that ice conditions have allowed Captain Phillips to achieve his aim, and that Trevor Potts has also succeeded in completing his dangerous voyage a few weeks later.

The Shackleton family motto, "By endurance we conquer", together with a lot of luck, are equally essential to the success of any polar operation.

Yours faithfully,  
M. B. F. RANKEN,  
44 Castelnau Mansions,  
Castelnau, Barnes, SW13.

## Playground economics

From Mr Donald J. M. MacLennan

Sir, Daily, during term time, as I traverse our school's quadrangle, I am amazed at the number of copper coins scattered over its surface, seemingly abandoned. Having taught at the school for many years, I can attest this to be a fairly recent phenomenon. It is only this year that I began to notice the little brown circles reflecting the sun's rays.

Using the school secretary's pink nail varnish, we recently marked several abandoned coins. Six days on, we found all exactly in situ, but, more alarmingly, the overall cache had swollen. It seems nothing can persuade our pupils to lift them, even if only to examine them.

Our head of physics, who is of retirement age and a champion of traditional values, reminded us of the days of the penny caramel and the "penny rush" (children's Saturday cinema). He extolled the strength of the British economy in past days, saying it was copper-bottomed in more than one sense.

It seems that the story of these copper coins says as much about sterling as the Chancellor of the Exchequer said in his autumn Budget.

Yours faithfully,  
DONALD J. M. MACLENNAN,  
6 Burns Avenue,  
Bishopston, Renfrewshire,  
December 24.

## Back to basics?

From Mr Maurice Crump

Sir, A week in hospital brought a bill seven feet long. Are there no lengths to which modern technology will not go?

Yours etc,  
MAURICE CRUMP,  
46 (2) Elm Park Road, SW3,  
December 24.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.

Yours truly,  
LOUIS L. BAILLY,  
Garlands House,  
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall,  
December 21.







## OBITUARIES

## MAJOR-GENERAL HUGH BORRADAILE

Major-General Hugh Alastair Borradaile, CB, DSO, Commander of the 43 (Wessex) Division, 1957-60, and Vice Adjutant General, 1960-63, died on December 13 aged 86. He was born on June 22, 1907.

ALL regiments have their own father figures: Hugh Borradaile filled this role for many years for the Devonshire Regiment, and subsequently for the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment after their amalgamation. Born in Exeter, he had West Country connections, which were enhanced by his service with the 43rd (Wessex) Division during the Second World War and by his command of it in the late 1950s.

A powerful stocky figure and an all round sportsman, he had a quiet laconic manner which masked his essential uprightness and inner steel. No exhorter, he led by example, rarely raising his voice or losing his temper, but no one was ever in any doubt what he wanted and the standards he expected: all gave him their best because to let him down would have been unacceptable.

He was educated at Wellington College and Sandhurst and commissioned into the Devonshire Regiment in 1926. After five years with the Devons in England, he was seconded to the King's African Rifles and gained his first operational experience with them "bushwhacking" in East Africa. By 1939 he was back in England as a student at the Staff College, and when war broke out that autumn he was appointed Brigade Major of the 6th Infantry Brigade in the 2nd Division with the BEF in France.

Having survived Dunkirk, he was sent back to the Staff College for nine months as a battle-experienced instructor. Much to his surprise, he then found himself assistant military attaché in Dublin at a time when Anglo-Irish relations were at their worst. This was largely due to the Irish Government's refusal to allow British anti-submarine forces to operate out of Irish ports and maritime reconnaissance aircraft to use Irish airfields, thus restricting the operating range of the convoy escorts and completely depriving the convoys of air cover in mid-ocean during the most critical months of the Battle of the Atlantic.

Borradaile left Dublin in 1942 to become GSOI to West Africa Com-



Borradaile as Master of the Worshipful Company of Drapers

mand until summoned home to take command of the 5th Battalion of the East Lancashire Regiment, which was training with the 59th Division for the invasion of Normandy.

The 59th Division's first major action came during the prolonged battle for Caen in July 1944. The division led the frontal attack on the ruins of the city. Severely wounded during the assault, Borradaile had to give up command. When he was fully recovered, he was given the 7th Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry in the 43rd (Wessex) Division. He commanded it throughout the hard fought autumn battles in the Rhineland, starting with the abortive attempt to rescue the airborne troops at Arnhem.

The battles on the Maas followed, as the British Second Army forced its way

doggily across the last few miles of Dutch territory towards the elusive German frontier. This was a tough contest in bitterly cold weather against a tenacious enemy, still capable of mounting counter-attacks with fresh divisions. The advance was made more difficult by the heavy November rains which burst the banks of the many streams and canals that network the region, turning the ground into a seemingly bottomless morass through which infantry had to struggle in the teeth of enemy fire. On November 19 Borradaile's battalion was involved in the capture of Gellenkirchen, north of Aachen, after a fierce battle — thus taking its first decisive step on German soil: for this Borradaile was awarded the DSO.

The tactical skill that he displayed at Arnhem and on the Maas so im-

pressed General Sir Brian Horrocks, the commander of XXX Corps, that he made him his GSOI (Operations) for the rest of the war. Borradaile's brigade commander at the time commented that his departure was a severe blow to his staff, adding that there were too few officers to fight so many battles as a battalion commander, under such varying conditions, in so short a time and with such success.

When the war ended Borradaile spent some months as Assistant Chief of Staff (Executive) of the Control Commission in Germany before being sent to command the 1st Battalion of his own regiment, the Devons, who had taken part in the re-occupation of Malaya and were part of the Singapore Garrison when he reached them in September 1946. He took them to Hong Kong for most of 1947 and returned to Singapore at the end of the year where the Communist revolt was beginning to simmer beneath the surface. However before it broke surface, later that year, he was back in Germany as Deputy Chief of Intelligence in the Control Commission and then spent the year 1950-51 as the first British student at the Canadian National Defence College.

From 1951 he was the last chief administrative staff officer of Anti-Aircraft Command. When it was disbanded in 1953 he took command of the 24th Infantry Brigade in Trieste. Two years in the War Office followed where he was Deputy Military Secretary, dealing with appointments of senior officers.

In 1957 he went to command the South-West District and the 43rd (Wessex) Division of the Territorial Army. During this time the amalgamation of the Devonshire and Dorsetshire Regiments took place as a result of the creation of a smaller all regular Army when National Service ended in the early 1960s. He became the new regiment's first Colonel in 1962.

Borradaile was Vice-Adjutant General in the War Office, 1960-63. After he retired from the Army he was re-employed in the Security Vetting Unit for seven years. He was a member of the Drapers' Company and its Master in 1971-72.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Barbara Powell-Williams of Yelverton, Devon, a leading lady golfer, whom he married in 1936, and one son and a daughter.

## H. A. MASON



H. A. Mason, teacher, critic, scholar and editor, died in Cambridge on November 25 aged 82. He was born in Hull on July 30, 1911.

THOUGH a classicist by early training, H. A. Mason was widely interested in all aspects of European and American modernism to which he brought a profound knowledge of European literature. His earliest publications were about modernist works and American films for Oxford undergraduate papers, but he contributed the first of the "Oxford Letters" to the Cambridge periodical *Scrutiny* in 1934. He brought the critical rigour he learnt as a member of the *Scrutiny* group to everything he did thereafter, in both teaching and writing.

Harold Andrew Mason was educated at Hull Grammar School and Christ's Hospital. He then took a London external degree at what was then the University College of Hull, before going to Oriel College, Oxford, to read Greats. After taking his degree in 1934 Mason began his career teaching classics at Stamford School.

In 1937 he took a post as teacher of classics and English at an English boarding school in Villars, in French-speaking Switzerland. When this school closed, he moved to a similar post in Rosenberg, near St Gallen in German-speaking Switzerland. During this period Mason became one of *Scrutiny*'s most regular writers, contributing articles and reviews on an astonishing range of subjects. He was married in 1945 in Basle, and which he shared with humanists like Erasmus, More, Rabelais and Vivand. At the same time he was determined not to undervalue the native, vernacular and folk traditions which he — never entirely out of touch with his provincial Yorkshire origins

languages led to several of them taking up teaching careers that combined English with other European literatures. In 1955 Mason left Cambridge for a lectureship at Exeter University, where he became a senior lecturer in 1963. It was at Exeter that he laid the foundations of his later career. He published his first book, *Humanism and Poetry in the Early Tudor Period*, in 1959. Behind its chaste title lay a radical critical experiment, for Mason was one of the few critics living who possessed the linguistic competence to test the reality of Eliot's phrases about "the mind of Europe".

Mason attempted what had not been done before — to establish the relationship between the neo-Latin culture of humanist Europe and the vernacular literature of England. In the book Mason made his first sustained attempt to bring the critical procedures of the *Scrutiny* group to bear upon the classical literature in which he had been trained, and which he shared with humanists like Erasmus, More, Rabelais and Vivand. At the same time he was determined not to undervalue the native, vernacular and folk traditions which he — never entirely out of touch with his provincial Yorkshire origins

— knew and loved. The hero of the book was Thomas Wyatt, with whom Mason had a deep and enduring sympathy, and upon whom he published several articles and two further books.

In 1965 Mason was elected to the F. R. Leavis lectureship, an independently funded post attached to the Cambridge English faculty. Mason, whose style and manner were more Arnoldian than Leavis's, might have done much to close the rifts that then existed among the factions of the English faculty, but past bitterness, together with a growing friction between the Leavises and the Leavis trustees, left him in a difficult and rather isolated position. Nevertheless, he gave himself rigorously to the faculty's teaching and was elected to a fellowship at Clare Hall.

He had begun lecturing on Shakespeare in Exeter, and these lectures were developed in Cambridge to form the basis of his next book, *Shakespeare's Tragedies of Love*. A further two books (*To Homer through Pope* and *The Tragic Plane*) represented a renewed attempt to discover the vital link between modern English literature and the classics. Mason considered that authors of the past remained shadows until they had been recreated for the present by a writer of genius.

He felt keenly the demise of *Scrutiny* in 1953 and was the moving spirit behind *The Cambridge Quarterly*, of which he became one of the founder editors in 1966. He contributed to it for more than 25 years.

Though he retired in 1978 Mason never gave the least sense of failing powers. At his death he was preparing a collection of essays on Roman authors for publication as a book, and his series of critical articles on Dante was ongoing.

He is survived by his wife Eve and their three sons.

## HILDA BOR

Hilda Bor, pianist and former piano teacher to the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, died on December 19 aged 83. She was born on May 7, 1910.



HILDA BOR was a talented pianist during the 1920s and 1930s and became a piano teacher after the war.

Being particularly good with small children, she came highly recommended when the Queen was looking for someone suitable to start the young Prince Charles and Princess Anne on music lessons in their pre-preparatory school days. Hilda Bor would arrive at Buckingham Palace twice a week and be escorted to the nursery, where she took her charges through the rudimentary steps. Charles was found to have a good ear for tunes, and though he later dropped the piano in favour of the bagpipes and cello, it was

mentary steps. Charles was found to have a good ear for tunes, and though he later dropped the piano in favour of the bagpipes and cello, it was

those early lessons with Hilda Bor which gave him his solid musical grounding. Yehudi Menuhin, Clifford Curzon and Harry Blech also entrusted their children to her.

Hilda Bor was born into a musical family, one of four children who won scholarships to the Royal Academy of Music. She studied under two of the greatest piano teachers of her day: Vivian Langrish at the Royal Academy and Tobias Matthay (who had also taught Langrish). Hilda made her debut at the Proms, then held at Queen's Hall and conducted by Sir Henry Wood, when she was only 14. Having recorded her first concert for the BBC at 17, she became a regular broadcaster. She was a particularly fine interpreter of Chopin, Mozart and, from the modern canon, Arnold Bax and Nicholas Medtner, both of whom were friends. She went on to play with the best chamber orchestras — the Griller String Quartet, the Amadeus and the Kantrovich Trio.

During the war she joined forces with Richard Pinney, then director of the Red Cross, to organise a series of lunchtime concerts at the Royal Exchange in the City, thus providing office workers with a daily musical respite from the horrors of war. The Lord Mayor of London, Sir Samuel Joseph, called it "a public service of first class importance".

Teaching took her out of the public eye during the 1960s, but she continued to practise daily, to perform in the occasional concert and teach until quite recently. Nor was she forgotten by her old pupils, including Prince Charles who sent her flowers on her 80th birthday. She lived in Cambridge with her two sisters for the last twenty years. They and a brother survive her.

Jeff Morrow, American stage and screen actor, died in Los Angeles on December 26 aged 80. He was born on January 13, 1913.

BEGINNING his career in classical drama on Broadway, Jeff Morrow proceeded to Hollywood in the 1930s. There, after a good supporting role in the 20th Century-Fox film *The Robe* he seemed destined for a career in the "big" costume dramas of Tinseltown's high technical-art age.

For the next ten years he did, indeed, have several more respectable parts which exploited his always solid on-screen presence and acting ability. Meanwhile his career had taken a turn which might not so easily have been detected from his classical stage training, as he starred in several of the science fiction films which became cult favourites of the period.

Born in New York, Morrow started his life as a commercial artist before becoming a stage actor. Thereafter traditional stage fare kept him busy for a number of years, and he appeared in more than twenty productions, ranging in weight from *Lace on her Petticoat* to *Macbeth*.

Like many Broadway stalwarts he was lured to Hollywood in the 1930s and landed a good supporting role as Paulus in the biblical blockbuster *The Robe* (1953). Hollywood's first Cinemascope film, which featured a glamorous cast of stars in the young Richard Burton, Jean Simmons and Victor Mature. In *Captain Lightfoot* (1953), a story about the adventures of a nineteenth-century Irish rebel, he starred alongside Rock Hudson, and in the following year he was with Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis in the comic

## JEFF MORROW



Left to right, Jeff Morrow, Richard Burton and Victor Mature in the biblical epic *The Robe*

*Partners*, a spoof on the classic Western in which the hero rides in from the desert and cleans up the town.

None of these was more than competent and in the meantime Morrow had begun a fruitful career with his sci-fi debut in *This Island Earth* (1955). In this Morrow starred as a visitor from outer space masquerading as a scientist at a remote research station. This absorbing drama was not as much hokum as it sounds in description — which is more than could be said for *The Creature Walks Among Us* (1956). The second sequel to *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*, which had featured a frightening but sympathetic

monster from the depths of the Amazon, this risibly, had the creature now casting lustful eyes on Morrow's screen wife, played by the bathing-suited Leigh Snowden.

Morrow's screen career tended to decline thereafter through such fare as the absurdly incompetent horror item *The Giant Claw* (1957) and another biblical offering, the tedious *The Story of Ruth* (1960). But this was largely bad luck and Morrow took his undoubted talents to television where lucrative series such as *The Twilight Zone* and *Bonanza* ensured him a decent living.

He leaves his widow, Anna, and a daughter.

## MARY ORVIG

Mary Orvig, international authority on children's literature, died after a short illness on November 29 at the age of 75. She was born in Stockholm on July 4, 1918.

SINCE the end of the Second World War a number of multilingual women from Scandinavia, from Germany, and from Switzerland pursued with much energy the belief that improved understanding across cultures might be attained through the medium of children's literature. Such a belief rested in part on the optimistic notion that children would arrive at a better appreciation of the world's diversity by reading about children from other nations.

As a concomitant however, this led to many formal and informal contacts being made between professionals in the field, so that international co-operation and a heightened sympathy had a chance to grow among many interested adults.

Mary Orvig was in the forefront of this movement. As a Swede she was well-placed to hold the ring between the free-booting West and the hopelessly politicised East. With a competence seemingly in every European language, she was able to build friendships across the world. As an energetic administrator she helped found such bodies as the International Board on Books for Youth and the International Research Society for Children's Literature — both of which, to her regret, were viewed with considerable scepticism from Britain.

The professionalism of Mary Orvig's administrative work owed much to her training as a librarian, both in Sweden and at the Library School of the University of Oklahoma. Graduating from

there in 1948 she worked as children's librarian in Stockholm and in New York, and in 1966 she became head of the Swedish Institute for Children's Books, associated with the City and University libraries of Stockholm originally housed in an historic timber frame house in the city.

Under Orvig's direction the Institute achieved world renown for its work in preserving and encouraging the study of a nation's children's literature. Many bibliographical projects were undertaken, contemporary writers and illustrators were encouraged to use the collections, and generous hospitality was shown to visiting scholars of the world. A tribute to Mary Orvig's gift for manipulating the bureaucracy.

In addition to her administrative work Orvig devoted time to the study of children's literature, publishing a number of works which celebrate the Swedish contribution to the genre. She was also deeply interested in the role of women writers long before this became a fashionable academic subject, and her two books on the history of feminine deportment and on girls' stories, *St Skulle Flickan Vara (1973)* and *Flickboken Och Dess Författare (1988)*, show the breadth of her grasp and her awareness of the influence of English and American traditions on the European book.

After retiring from the Institute in 1983 (the year it moved to larger premises) Mary Orvig kept up her work and at the time of her death had completed a study of the children's literature of the Baltic countries. She is survived by her husband, the eminent Norwegian palaeontologist, Tor Orvig.

Those who visited them at their home near Stockholm will long remember their warm hospitality.

## CORONATION OF NAPOLEON

At the coronation of BUONAPARTE, the HOLY FATHER made an unsuccessful effort to establish the temporal supremacy of the Papal authority. Having received the crown from the Grand Dignitary, his HOLINESS was in the act of placing it on the head of the Emperor, when he was interrupted by the vigilant NAPOLEON, who rudely snatched it from the hands of the Sovereign Pontiff, and placed it with his own hands on his own brow. The HOLY FATHER, dejected in his design, withdrew at least to place the diadem on the head of Josephine, but here, again, he reckoned without his host, as her fiery lord, interrupted him in the same way, and crowned her IMPERIAL MAJESTY himself.

## ON THIS DAY

December 28 1804

David's painting of the coronation aroused the rage of the pope, but now, in the Louvre, it arouses awe and admiration. The second article may be the first of The Times' premature obituaries: Haydn died in May 31 1802.

and yet, with all the facility of the other professions, they can now, in turn, become the instruments for swelling the vanity, and illustrating the pomp of an individual Usurper and Tyrant. Their pencils and pallets may be in perpetual occupation; but no painting can ever convert into beauty the foul blunders of their hero's character, or even disguise them from the scrutinising investigation of those, whom fiction and show will not blind, and whose duty, it must be to let posterity see the wicked Child of Fortune, such as he really is.

## DEATH OF HAYDN

The death of HAYDN is a lamentable event in the Musical World: for though he was "far declined into the vale of years" his genius was by no means exhausted, and every new work from his hand displayed a sound judgment and a rich imagination. There have been professors more profound in the science of music, but none who united so much learning with such original genius, and a vivid fancy. The great characteristic of his works, was simplicity, produced by the most complicated arrangements. Every instrument was most happily employed in all his compositions, so as to mark the character of each, and combine them, with admirable effect. In his works there is often grandeur and sublimity; and there is also, if we may use such a term, a strong vein of humour; for many passages are ingenious, lively and diverting, and produce such effects as might be expected to arise from a Comic Poem. He was a very amiable man in private life, but little acquainted with the world, though he had lived so long in it, because he was particularly liberal in his judgment of the works of others; and though he eclipsed most of his contemporaries, all of them have united in admiring his genius, and in paying homage.

THE TIMES  
**LIVES**  
~ REMEMBERED ~

ACTORS AND ACTRESSES  
ARMED SERVICES  
DIPLOMACY AND POLITICS  
FILM AND THEATRE  
MONARCHS AND ARISTOCRACY  
THE LAW - THE CHURCH  
ARTISTS - LITERATURE  
INDUSTRY AND FINANCE  
SPORTS - RECREATION  
MUSICIANS - ORIGINALS

125 OBITUARIES FROM THE TIMES IN  
**1993**

A fascinating collection of mini biographies  
— FOREWORD BY ROY MATTHEWSLEY  
— EDITED BY ANTHONY HOWARD AND DAVID HEATON

ORDER FORM  
— The Times LIVES REMEMBERED —  
Please send me...  
— copy(ies) in hardback @ £14.99  
— copy(ies) in paperback @ £7.99  
(Post free in UK, overseas orders add £6)

I enclose a cheque for £... made payable to:  
"The Blewbury Press"  
Alternatively please debit my Access/Visa card number

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Post coupon to:  
The Blewbury Press Pound House Church Road  
Blewbury Oxon OX11 9PY  
Telephone orders: 0235 850110 Fax: 0420 478664  
Also available from booksellers

## Latest wills

Mr Henry Egerton Cotton, of Liverpool, Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside, left estate valued at £1,020,164 net.  
He left £500 each to the Cathedral of Christ, Liverpool, and Liverpool Cathedral Committee, and £250 to St Mary's Church, Grimsdale.  
Mr George Dudley Herbert of Amesbury, Wiltshire, and Home Farm House, Ogbourne St George, left estate valued at £3,665,220 net.  
He left £46,100 and certain real property to the Tavistock Institute of Medical Psychology, London, £1,000 to St Pancras Housing Association, London, together with any stock in that association, any stock in the Kensington Housing Trust and Fiddington Housing Association to those respective associations, and the residue of his estate to the National Trust.  
Dorothy Adams, of Seaford, East Sussex, left estate valued at £250,057 net.  
She left her entire estate to the British Wireless for the Blind Fund.  
Mary Griffiths Cochran, of

Newcastle Emlyn, Dyfed, left estate valued at £365,748 net.  
She left her entire estate equally between the West Wales Badger Group, Saundersfoot, the New Quay Bird Hospital, Glyn Danyfryn, the British Red Cross Society, Criccieth, the Porthcerry Sanctuary, St. Idun, and PDSA.  
Other estates include (not before tax):  
Mr Noel Eric Bisham Swan, of Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex, £570,191.  
Mr George Carrington Williams, of Ashton under Lyne, Greater Manchester, £660,948.  
Mr Michael Frederick Wilson, of Eochinswell, Hants, £1,051,939.  
Mrs Pamela Constance Laura Andreyev, of Cambridge, £578,417.  
Mrs Rosemary Georgina Capper, of Polstead, Suffolk, £679,330.  
Mrs Mabel Iris Elfrida Clarke, of Mold, Chwyd, £615,190.  
Mrs Molly Collins, of Hayling Island, Hampshire, £45,031.  
Mr George Frederick Ellis, of Water Orton, Warwickshire, £771,261.















# Pains and pleasures of life at the gallop

One of National Hunt racing's senior jockeys tells Alan Lee why he carries on in the sport despite its dangers and arduous daily routine

Among the many who regard horse racing as merely a plaything for the rich, there is a preconception of the jockey as a suntanned little man who darts from one Arab benefactor to another in his own private plane. Simon McNeill can tell a different story. McNeill has been riding for almost 20 years without seeing the inside of either a private plane or an Arab's wallet and his face is more likely to be decorated with cuts and bruises.

He is the working man's jockey, skilled but unsung, in that area of the turf National Hunt, where sport still intrudes upon business. For money alone, McNeill and his like surely would not put their brains and bodies through the daily purgatory of their perilous life. Jump jockeys do it because, to a man, they are in love with their job, though when the routine is related, you have to wonder why.

It is not just the public face of the work, though that is daunting enough. McNeill should ride in about 400 races this season (Adrian Maguire and Richard Dunwoody will total nearer 800) and, if 40 are winners, another 40 will assuredly be fallers. Injuries are an accepted penance, pain an irritation to be endured without complaint. "Very few jockeys wake up in the morning without something hurting," McNeill said.

Racegoers, both the avid and idle, see all this and, largely, appreciate the risk factor. What they do not see is the hidden workload of the winter game, for it is not simply a matter of turning up at the races each day, riding and going home to a decent supper. Even the supper has a price on its head and, if meeting the next day's racing weight is threatened, a slice of toast must suffice.

McNeill is 37, among the senior National Hunt jockeys but only recently among the more successful. For much of his career, launched with an initial winner at Wolverhampton in 1977, he was based in Newmarket, essentially flat-racing territory. It was when he moved to live close to Lambourn that doors were opened to him, and when he won the Champion Chase on Katabatic in 1991



McNeill leaves the Hereford weighing-room before embarking on one of the 400 or so rides that he will have this season. Photograph: Paul Saunders/News Team

that his career belatedly took off. His approach, however, has not altered. McNeill's first loyalty is to Andy Turner, trainer of Katabatic, but he remains a freelance and, if anything, he is working harder now than ever before — a symptom, he says, of the competition within what he regards as the most talented and dedicated group of jockeys he has known. "The standard is very high now and it is harder to get good rides," he said.

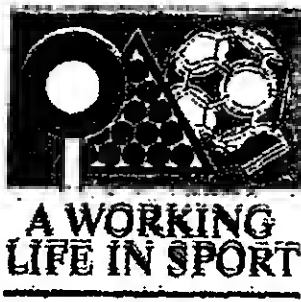
There are two ways for a jockey to seek rides. One is through the agent, ubiquitous and accepted these days. Maguire heads a string of 11 talented jockeys in the stable of one younger agent, Dave Roberts, who starts the business of finding them winners at 5am each day. McNeill has never enlisted an agent — "Old school, I suppose, but I prefer talking to trainers myself" — so, to compete, he has

to be out of bed before dawn, too.

"The alarm goes off at 6.30 every morning. I ride out for at least one trainer every day of the week, including Sundays. There have to be priorities, and I will always be at Andy's on Tuesday and Friday, his schooling mornings. I will go one day to Kim Bailey and one to David Gandolfo, then fit the others in where I can."

This early-morning exercise is, for the jockey, a means of familiarising himself with horses and, frequently, negotiating himself with trainers. But, to astonish those who believe nobody does anything for nothing, it is, at least at McNeill's level, voluntary and unpaid. "Some trainers might offer you a few quid petrol money and some might give you a good breakfast. Others will never even give you a ride."

The jumping season starts in August and, while daylight



hours are long, so are the jockey's working hours. "I might ride out for three different trainers in a morning at that time of year. But now that the days are short, racing starts at about 12.30 each day and it is a case of rushing straight there after riding one lot. It also cuts back on what you can do in terms of training."

This is a word which might have been anathema to a previous generation of jump jockeys, highly talented riders but a breed whose motivation was sport in its broadest

sense. When Josh Gifford, Terry Biddlecombe and Jeff King were the luminaries of the jumping weighing-room, many were the tales of all-night revelries from which jockeys would drive straight on to the following day's meeting, sometimes still in dinner jackets.

It doesn't happen any more, for all the urgings of Steve Smith, Eccles, and McNeill, who is a far from unsociable man himself, feels the difference. "I have always tried to keep fit and have told any of the youngsters who will listen how important it is. I get fit for the season by cycling and swimming. Once racing is properly under way, time is the problem, but I still fit in a morning swim when I can, and do exercises when I get up if the body is not aching too much."

The gripe in every jump jockey's life is the travelling. Unlike their more pampered flat colleagues, they must

drive everywhere, and at the worst times of year, often when the body and the brain have been battered out of coordination. McNeill hates it. "I try not to think how many miles I do in a season," he says. "The worst days are when you drive a hundred miles or more and find a meeting has been abandoned. Nobody pays you for that."

His essential travelling companions are a loud music and a mobile phone. "Virtually every jockey has one now and I honestly wonder how we managed without them. It will ring regularly on each journey and I have come to rely on it for planning my rides."

Within reason, McNeill will take whatever ride is offered, and he can still make the minimum weight of ten stone. "It's more of a struggle now. Perhaps it's my age but I have to work at it, maybe

cutting out supper and certainly having a sweat. I will go in a sauna but I prefer sitting at home in a hot bath for 45 minutes. It does wrinkle you up, though."

The jump jockey receives £77 per ride, which McNeill considers very realistic, plus five per cent of any owner's winnings. He will never become fabulously wealthy, as Pat Eddery might be considered, but neither will he starve. Moreover, he will invariably be happy.

"There are a lot of downs and a lot of knocks in this job, but the ups take care of them all. Every winner is a real buzz and the feelings of friendship you build up are deep and lasting."

"It is a great life and I am not even thinking of giving up yet."

Peter Ebdon, snooker player

## Obree sets sights on regaining one-hour record

By PETER BRYAN

GRAEME Obree, Britain's world pursuit champion, was quick to respond yesterday to the news that Francesco Moser, the great Italian cyclist, had scheduled an attempt to regain his world one-hour track record which stood for nine years before the Scot — then an amateur — broke it in Norway last July.

"That's good news. I hope he sets a new record," Obree said in response to the report in *The Times*. Obree held the record, with a distance of 51.596 kilometres, for only six days before Chris Boardman bettered his distance at Bordeaux.

Obree added that his priority in 1994 was to regain the record whether or not the Italian beat Boardman's distance of 52.770 kilometres.

Moser, 42, wants to celebrate the tenth anniversary of his record ride and has returned to Mexico City to prepare for an attempt on January 14 using the track where he set his 1983 distance. At the time, the distance was considered unbeatable.

The outdoor track has been resurfaced with a resin top coat — at the Italian's expense — to help increase his speed.

He is in Mexico with an entourage of doctors, coaches and mechanics to prepare for the attempt to regain the record.

Obree, who has trained in Milan with Moser, is flattered that the former holder will be using a bike designed to give him the "hacked in" arms position that the Scot has made his own trademark.

"What I don't like about his attempt is the fact that he will be doing it at altitude," commented Obree. "The world-controlling body no longer differentiates between sea level and altitude."

"Both Chris (Boardman) and I did our rides at sea level, but we beat Moser's altitude record as well as the sea level figures he set in Stuttgart."

"But it's unfair and expensive to give riders the option. There should be one allowable standard for everyone."

Obree will make his challenge at sea level. No date has been decided, but the track is likely to be chosen from Vienna, Stuttgart or Bordeaux and he is prepared to set aside two months for special training leading up to the attempt.

Chris Boardman has no immediate plans to respond to Moser should the Italian reclaim his record. He wants to concentrate on his new career as a professional cyclist.

## Kramer leads Lions to place in play-offs

By ROBERT KIRLEY

ERIK Kramer completed two touchdown passes on Sunday to lead the Detroit Lions to a 20-14 victory over the Chicago Bears, which, combined with New Orleans being defeated, enabled Detroit to secure a National Football League play-off berth.

Detroit will play host to the Green Bay Packers on Sunday on the last weekend of the regular season to determine the champion of the National Football Conference Central division. Kramer, making his third start since replacing Rodney Peete at quarterback, completed 23 of 31 passes for 223 yards.

Jim Harbaugh returned as quarterback for Chicago after missing a game with a bruised hand. After the Bears took a 14-13 lead, Kramer moved the Lions 80 yards in 12 plays to go 20-14 ahead. He completed six passes, highlighted by a one-yard touchdown toss to Ty Hallock with three minutes left.

Chicago advanced 65 yards

after the opening kick-off to take a 7-0 lead. Tim Worley scored from the one-yard line on his twelfth carry during a 16-play drive that lasted more than ten minutes.

Detroit answered a scoring drive on their first series, but with Barry Sanders and Derrick Moore sidelined with injuries, Kramer relied on passes, hitting Brett Perriman with a 20-yarder to make it 7-7.

The Lions recovered a Chicago fumble at the Bears' 48 to set up a Jason Hanson field goal with 13:15 remaining in the third quarter. Kramer hit Aubrey Matthews with a 25-yard pass to the 27 before the drive stalled and Hanson kicked a 37-yarder to give Detroit a 13-7 lead.

At Philadelphia, Bobby Brister passed for two touchdowns and Eric Allen returned two interceptions for touchdowns to lead the Eagles to a 37-26 win over the Saints. Brister hit Michael Young with a 49-yard touchdown toss and connected with Herschel

Walker on an 11-yard scoring pass in Philadelphia's 18-point second quarter. The Eagles kept alive their hopes of a wild-card play-off position. Despite suffering their fourth successive defeat, New Orleans also remained in the wild-card hunt.

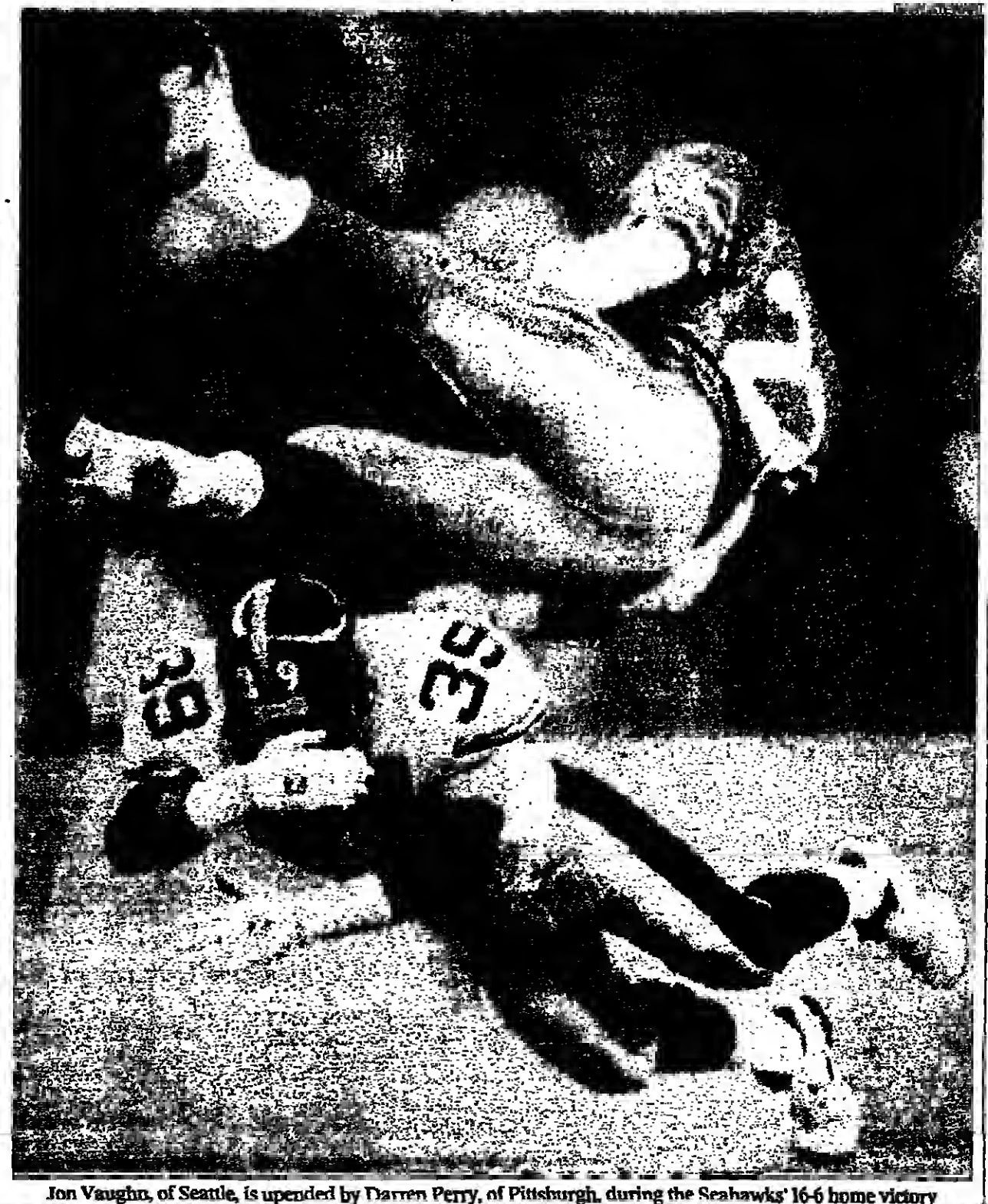
At Green Bay, Sterling Sharpe, the wide receiver, set a league record and the Packers clinched their first play-off position since 1982 with a 28-0 win over the Los Angeles Raiders. Sharpe surpassed 100 receptions for the second straight season. Despite playing in sub-zero temperatures, he caught seven passes, including a 23-yard scoring strike from Brett Favre, giving him 106 for the season.

Steve Christie kicked a 40-yard field goal with less than four minutes to play to lift the Buffalo Bills to a 16-14 win over the New York Jets, giving the Bills their fifth divisional title in six years. The Jets had a chance to win the game, but Cary Blanchard missed a 42-yard field goal with 53 seconds left. The loss eliminated the Jets from play-off consideration.

Troy Aikman fired two touchdown passes in the final two minutes of the first half, leading Dallas to a 38-3 win over Washington and putting the Cowboys in a position to win their divisional championship next week.

Dallas and the New York Giants meet at Giants Stadium to determine who will gain home-field advantage for the duration of the play-offs. The Cowboys previously beat the Giants, so they can clinch with a win or a tie.

Ron Moore scored two second-half touchdowns to rally the Cardinals 17-6 and halt the Giants' winning sequence at 4-4 games.



Jon Vaughn, of Seattle, is upended by Darren Perry, of Pittsburgh, during the Seahawks' 16-6 home victory

## Morrison inspires impressive Flyers

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

FIFE Flyers made an unpromising start to the ice hockey season, losing their first two games, but have lost only twice in 16 outings since then and extended their unbeaten streak to ten with a 10-2 success over Durham Wasps on Sunday.

Durham scored after 20 seconds and were 3-2 behind at the end of the first period, but the Flyers dominated from then on, Mark Morrison leading the way with three goals and two assists.

Scott Morrison went one better, registering three goals and three assists to help Whitely Warriors to an easy 12-4 win over Billingham Bombers, who remained rooted to the foot of the premier division table.

Peterborough Pirates are only two points ahead of them and their 12-5 loss to Cardiff Devils was their fourth in succession. The win kept the Devils in second place, five points behind the Flyers with three games in hand.

Basingstoke Beavers beat near-neighbours Bracknell Bees 10-5 and Sheffield Steelers edged Nottingham Panthers 6-5. Medway Bears provided an upset in the first division, beating Milton Keynes Kings 8-4, ending the Kings' run of 15 successive wins. The Medway celebrations were somewhat muted as Chris Gruber and Derek Switzer ended the evening in hospital with a broken nose and concussion respectively.

RESULTS: British League: Premier division: Basingstoke Beavers 10 Bracknell Bees 5; Cardiff Devils 12 Peterborough Pirates 5; Fife Flyers 10 Durham Wasps 2; Harrogate Racers 14 Medway Bears 5; Sheffield Steelers 8 Milton Keynes Kings 4; Whitely Warriors 12 Billingham Bombers 4. First division: Hockey Stars 9 Milton Keynes Kings 4; Slough Jets 10 Swindon Wildcats 4; Telford Tigers 7; Solihull Bears 4; Trafford Motors 5; Blackburn Hawks 8.

RESULTS: Week 17: Buffalo 18 NY Jets 14; Detroit 20 Chicago 14; Cincinnati 21 Atlanta 17; Green Bay 28 LA Raiders 0; New England 38 Indianapolis 0; Philadelphia 37 New Orleans 2; Cleveland 47 LA Storm 14; Phoenix 17 NY Giants 6; Seattle 18 Pittsburgh 6; Tampa Bay 17 Denver 10; Dallas 38 Washington 3; Minnesota 30 Kansas City 10.

American Football Conference

East division

W	L	PF	PA
Buffalo	11	4	268
NY Jets	8	7	270
NY Giants	4	11	179
Indianapolis	4	11	259
New England	4	11	259

Central division

W	L	PF	PA
Houston	11	4	344
Pittsburgh	9	7	302
Cleveland	6	9	295
Cincinnati	3	12	174

West division

W	L	PF	PA
Kansas City	9	6	343
Denver	8	6	273
LA Raiders	6	8	246
San Diego	6	9	298

National Football Conference

East division

W	L	PF	PA
NY Giants	11	4	275
Philadelphia	7	8	350
Chicago	7	8	281
Washington	4	11	221

Central division

W	L	PF	PA
Detroit	10	6	288
Green Bay	9	6	320
Minnesota	8	6	303
Chicago	7	8	281
Tampa Bay	5	10	300

West division

W	L	PF	PA
San Francisco	10	6	430
New Orleans	7	7	271
Atlanta	6	9	308
LA Rams	4	11	301

FOOTNOTES: Week 18: Friday: Minnesota at Washington. Sunday: Buffalo at Indianapolis; Atlanta at Cincinnati; Cincinnati at New Orleans; Denver at Pittsburgh; Dallas at Seattle; Denver at Raiders; Green Bay at Detroit; Miami at New England; Phoenix at Atlanta; San Diego at Tampa Bay; Seattle at Kansas City; Jets at Houston. Monday: Philadelphia at San Francisco.

\* won division championship  
† secured play-off position.







سورة الاحقاف

Worried  
Wigan  
fighting  
to keep  
players

# The Quiz of the Sporting Year compiled by John Goodbody

## Where was Alex Ferguson when Manchester United won their first league championship for 26 years?

### JANUARY

1. Which racecourse spent the New Year holiday restoring its facilities after they were vandalised?
2. Which British tennis coach started "looking for a kid with a bit of bastard in him"?
3. Which famous South African sports administrator, of whom it was said "he opened the door and showed us the way", died?
4. Why did Kevin Hodgson, the English table tennis player, have his bat banned?
5. Why was England's one-day cricket international against India in Ahmedabad called off?
6. Which 1988 Olympic champion said he was going to attempt to swim the English Channel?
7. Who scored England's only try against France in the five nations' championship at Twickenham?
8. How many dollars did Addis Abebe, of Ethiopia, win in setting a world best in a 10km road race in Jakarta?
9. In the fourth Test at Adelaide, by how many runs did West Indies beat Australia?
10. Why was Jodi Evans unique in being picked to compete in the Oxford v Cambridge Varsity Games?
11. Who won the Monte Carlo rally?

- was an immediate success against Scotland?
28. Which British club athlete, who had been banned for four years for failing to provide a urine sample, was warned that he could be taken to court to prevent him from appearing in events anonymously while under suspension?
  29. Who announced that she would be standing down as the president of the International Equestrian Federation?
  30. Which American returned from a drug suspension to win the 400 metres at the world indoor championships?
  31. To which country did England lose in the semi-finals of the world youth football championship?
  32. Which horse won the Cheltenham Gold Cup?
  33. What was unusual about the venue for the two FA Cup semi-finals?
  34. In what position did Nigel Mansell finish in his IndyCar debut at Surfers Paradise, Australia?
  35. Who won the Hong Kong sevens rugby union tournament?
  36. Of which crew did Matthew Pinsent, the 1992 Olympic gold medal-winner, say: "They never gave us a chance"?

### FEBRUARY

12. Who won the Australian men's singles tennis title?
13. Who won the Australian women's singles tennis title?
14. Which American football team won Super Bowl XXVII?
15. Which country withdrew from the voting so that India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka could stage the 1995 cricket World Cup?
16. The International Cricket Council decided on February 3 that Graham Gooch's 109 against a South African XI in 1982 was made in an unofficial match. After that decision, how many centuries in first-class cricket had Gooch made?
17. Which country won the five nations' championship match between England and Wales at Cardiff?
18. Which shirt company paid £15 million to the Football Association to extend its contract with the England team until 1999?
19. Which three England batsmen missed some of the play in the second Test in Madras because of food poisoning?
20. How many goals did David Platt score in England's 6-0 victory over San Marino in the World Cup qualifying match at Wembley?
21. What was the result of the three-match Test series between India and England?
22. Which famous football figure, forever associated with 1966, died?
23. Which former Olympic hurdler was picked on the wing for the Welsh rugby union team?

### MARCH

24. Which two England rugby union forwards were reprimanded by the Middlesex disciplinary committee for wearing illegal studs in a Pilkington Cup quarter-final match?
25. Which three rowing events faced elimination from the 1996 Olympics to make way for lightweight events?
26. Which sprinter was caught taking drugs for the second time and was banned for life?
27. Which stand-off half returned to the English rugby union team and

### MAY

47. Where was Alex Ferguson when he heard that Oldham had beaten Aston Villa and Manchester United had won their first championship for 26 years?
48. Who won the world snooker championship?
49. On which horse did Virginia Leng win Badminton for the third time?
50. Who was the first British woman to climb Mount Everest?
51. Allan Border, the Australia cricket captain, threatened to put which player on "the next plane home" during the match against Somerset at Taunton?
52. What was the score in the first game in the FA Cup final between Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday?
53. Who scored the winning goal in the FA Cup final replay?
54. Who resigned as manager when his club was relegated from the Premier League?

### JUNE

58. Which football club reached the Premier League for the first time after beating Leicester City in the play-off final at Wembley?
59. Which horse won the Ever Ready Derby?
60. Who said: "I would not say the team quit on me but I would say it quit on the fans"?
61. Who was said to have a "refuelling problem"?
62. Who won the Pierre de Coubertin International Fair Play Award?
63. Which English batsman was given out "handled the ball" in the first Test against Australia at Old Trafford?
64. Which team won the Stanley Cup in ice hockey for the first time in seven seasons?
65. Which English fast bowler was made an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List?
66. Miguel Indurain, of Spain, won the Giro d'Italia for the second year running in 1993. Who was the last cyclist to achieve this feat?
67. Of whose performance did Paul Westphal, the coach of the Phoenix Suns basketball team, say: "I am amazed. But I am not surprised"?
68. Who was not allowed to return to the British Isles rugby union tour of New Zealand after he had travelled to England to attend his father's funeral?
69. To whom did Chris Bailey lose in five sets in the second round of the men's singles at Wimbledon?
70. Who said after a series of poor performances by a national team: "We may be in the wrong sign or something. Venus may be in the wrong juxtaposition to something"?

### JULY

71. Martina Hingis, who became, at 12, the youngest junior grand slam winner when she won the French Open title, took part in the Wimbledon junior tournament. Who said of her participation: "It is too soon. If I had a 12-year-old, I would not do it with her, even if she were good enough"?
72. Who beat Andre Agassi, the holder, in the men's singles at Wimbledon?
73. What caused a stir at Henley Royal Regatta?
74. Who won the men's singles title at Wimbledon?
75. Who won the women's singles title at Wimbledon?
76. Of which team did its manager say: "We could claim we were five minutes away from being a great side"?

### AUGUST

83. Which country did the England women's cricket team beat in the World Cup final at Lord's?

### OCTOBER

107. Which British woman won a world judo title?
108. In which round did Lennox Lewis beat Frank Bruno in their world heavyweight title bout in Cardiff?
109. Which tennis player was banned from the first round of the 1994 Davis Cup after refusing to play in a singles match with the Bahamas when his country had an unassailable lead?

### DECEMBER

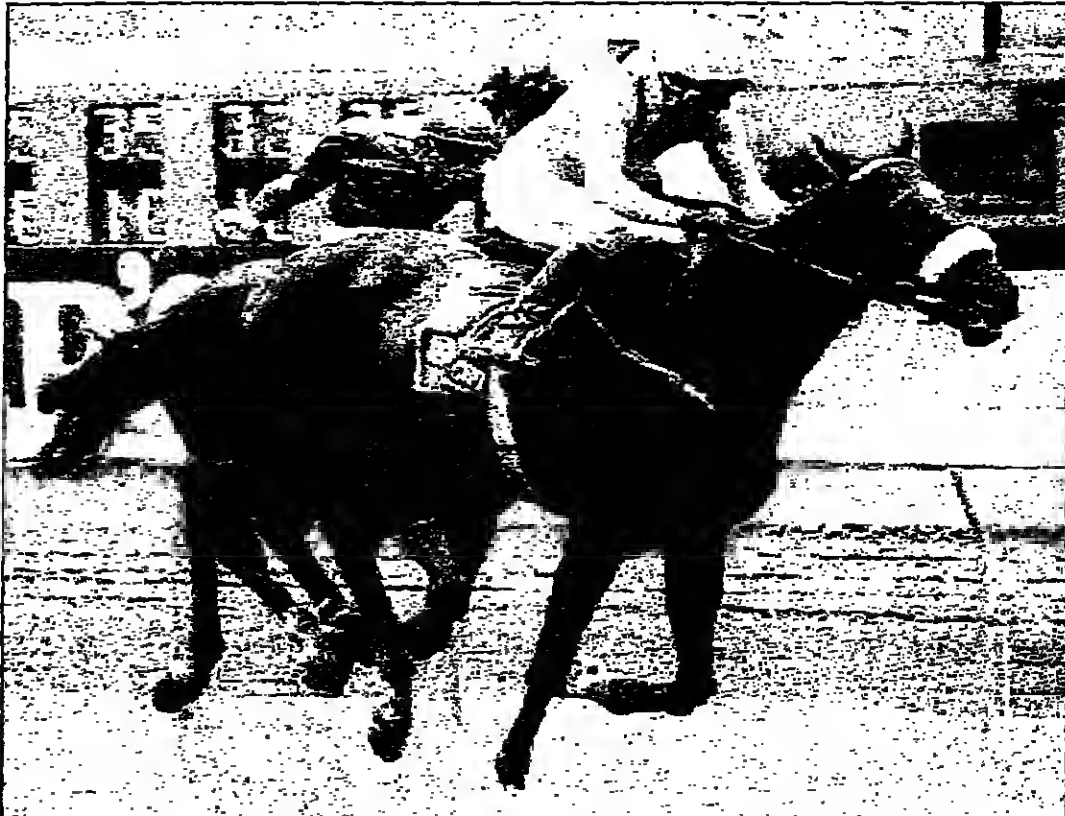
132. A world champion hurdler from which country claimed that her positive test for anabolic steroids resulted from her being secretly given the banned substances by her husband, who was seeking revenge for marital infidelity?
133. Who was the first British woman ever to win a world swimming title?
134. Who said he might never play professional football again after suffering a head injury in a match against Wimbledon?
135. Who said of the All Blacks rugby union team: "Some of their play has been beyond the convention we obey and I feel more sad about the damage they have done to rugby's image"?
136. How many gold medals did Britain win at the World short-course swimming championships?
137. Who won the Oxford v Cambridge University rugby union match at Twickenham?
138. In which sport did the International Olympic Committee recognise that there was a judging error at the 1992 Olympic Games and award a gold medal, 17 months after the event, to Sylvie Frechet?
139. To which club did Norwich City lose in the UEFA Cup?
140. Which captain of Tottenham Hotspur and Northern Ireland died?
141. For what reason was the start of the final day of the England v Transvaal cricket match delayed?
142. Who practised barefoot for the Johnnie Walker world golf championship at Montego Bay?
143. Which three English cities announced they were bidding for the 2002 Commonwealth Games?
144. Who beat Andy Holligan to retain his world light-welterweight boxing title?



Question A: Who led the campaign of members of the Marylebone Cricket Club, who proposed a vote of no-confidence in the English Test selectors after their winter tour choices?



Question B: Who broke the on-court dress rules of women's squash by wearing shorts in a tournament in Melbourne?



Question C: Which Irish horse won the Melbourne Cup?

Answers, page 18



# Major policy initiative required to rescue Chelsea



Beasant: good saves

Southampton ..... 3  
Chelsea ..... 1

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

NOT even the unexpected presence of the Prime Minister at The Dell yesterday could lift Chelsea out of their trough. But perhaps Glenn Hoddle, their manager, faced with a run of nine defeats in the last 11 games and with only Swindon now below them in the Premiership, would do well to follow John Major's policy. When Chelsea are finally undone by a player who six months ago was a waiter, it is time to get back to basics.

At present, Hoddle is teaching A level standard to GCSE O level students and unless some glimmer of comprehension emerges soon, Chelsea will go the way of Nottingham Forest, the other side labelled "too good to go down" in recent seasons. Chelsea have taken just two points out of a possible 33 in the last three months.

Hoddle kept his players under lock and key in the dressing-room for half an hour after the match, and it can be presumed from his grim tone he was not telling them the Christmas Story. Clearly, even Hoddle's patience is wearing thin.

"I wasn't happy with the way we defended," he said. "If anybody thought we weren't in a dogfight, they know now." But whether Hoddle can turn his bunch of poodles into Rottweilers in time for a New Year's Day reunion with his old club, Swindon, remains to be seen. A home game against Kevin Keegan's rampant Newcastle this afternoon is not likely to ease the transition.

Chelsea's formation remained a mystery, not least to the players, who spent much of the opening half in animated discussion about who should be where and why. In Hoddle's prolonged absence with an ankle injury, Peacock has taken on the role of on-

field interpreter and, at times, he resembled a policeman on point duty, directing his colleagues hither and thither to limited effect. Wise looks uninterested, the rest mostly confused.

Stein alone — and he was alone for much of the afternoon — seemed certain of his role and he did at least score his first goal for his new club, in his eighth game, taking advantage of one of a number of terrible blunders by Beasant, every bit a makeshift centre half, to lob over Beasant just before half-time. Had not Beasant, given a generous reception by his former home supporters at the visitors' end, not pulled

off a couple of good saves, that could have been Stein's hat-trick. Instead, it hauled Chelsea back into a game which their chaotic defence was in process of giving away in the true spirit of the season.

Every Southampton corner or cross caused mayhem, and it was a surprise only to the statisticians when Widdington was left free six yards out to give Southampton a deserved lead after 29 minutes, his first goal for the club in his 23rd game.

## Hearts stifle supporters' celebrations at Rangers

Rangers ..... 2  
Hearts of Midlothian ..... 2

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

ONCE again yesterday, the Ibrox roars were of anguish rather than triumph as a victory was snatched away from Rangers two minutes into injury-time. As Robertson's corner bounced up at Murray, the defender instinctively handled, the penalty was awarded and Robertson, on as a substitute, blasted it in himself, leaving doubts over Rangers' ability to retain their title lingering still.

Hearts are a tormented team, but there is, oddly, solace to be found in a trip to Ibrox these days. Rangers had already lost four times on their patch this season and yet despite that encouragement, the visitors did not seem inclined to experiment with carefree football. If you held the team-sheet to your ear, you could almost hear the mid-field's snarl. Both Millar and Berry were there to snap at Rangers.

Fortunately, for the spectator, team-sheets can be unreliable omens and after just ten minutes Hearts took the lead with a concise piece of play involving a former Rangers player whose accomplishment was recognised in the manner customary to such occasions. Thus the crowd reacted with hostility to Maurice Johnston's every involvement. It did not seem to fluster him. His controversial career taught him many years ago how to live without cordiality.

When Locke flighted a free-kick from the right, Johnston's flick was cunning, delivered to Allan Johnston's feet at the back post. He squared the ball and Millar forced his way through to finish. It was the sort of goal that increases suspicions about a defence which has infuriated Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, with the oblique ways it has contracted.

Seeking a remedy, Smith yesterday omitted his centre-half and captain, Gough, even though he was fit, but the new arrangement did not carry instant conviction. In the first half, Brown was at left back, but although the handicaps of his 31 years and numerous operations deny him the mobility required for that position. After half-time, he was predictably switched to a central position.

Discomfort in the rearguard prevented Rangers from developing the crushing momen-

tum which has come so easily to them in recent years. All the same, they are never without a chance so long as they can field Hateley. Those who thought he was only a target man have had to reconsider of late. McCost, winner of Europe's Golden Boot award in each of the last two years, has missed most of this season through injury, and few would have guessed that Hateley could shoulder the goal-scorer's burden so easily.

Hateley's equaliser, after 21 minutes, took his tally to 19 for this campaign. After Rangers had played FC Bruges in the Champions League early this year, the Englishman's marker, Cossey, made a vivid confession. He admitted that Hateley had left him feeling as if he was drowning. Yesterday, the striker was, in the same fashion, capable of inundating Hearts all by himself.

When Steven whirled in the box and sent the ball over with his left foot, it seemed that he had only picked out Weir. The defender, however, was oblivious to the menace behind him and never leapt to clear. Hateley is brutal in the presence of such hesitation. He charged in to climb above Weir and send a header looping over Walker for a majestic finish.

The forward should have put Rangers in front a minute before the break when Steven sent him through, but his shot cannoned to safety from the goalkeeper's legs. Still, there seemed to be an abundance of time for Rangers to acquire the points, and their ability to do so was rarely in doubt as they rediscovered their poise after the break. On a different day, they might have won.

However, they took only one of their chances and may have been playing thereafter in the mistaken belief that Hearts were out equipped to counter it. After 70 minutes, Kuznetsov fired a sweet pass out to the left and Huistra, the substitute, galloped on before delivering a cross for Hateley to sweep his shot low into the net.

That, as it turned out, was not the end of it. In times gone by, Rangers could hardly avoid victory at Ibrox, but at present it is proving the most elusive of prizes.

RANGERS (4-4-2): A Brown — N Murray, G Stevens, S Pressley, J Brown — T Steven, O Kuznetsov, S McColl (sub: C Vennart, G Smith, A Henderson) — O Dore (sub: P Huistra, 45), M Hateley.

HEARTS OF MIDLOTHIAN (4-4-2): N Walker — G Locke, J Weir, A McGovern, T McClelland — J Colquhoun (sub: J Robertson, 75), M Kerr — M Johnston, M Foster.

Referee: O McCricker.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE					
	Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form	
1 Manchester Utd	22	53	+26	DWDWD	
2 Leeds	22	40	+12	WWLWD	
3 Blackburn	21	39	+11	DWWD	
4 Arsenal	22	37	+11	LDWLW	
5 Newcastle	21	36	+18	LWBWD	
6 Norwich	20	34	+11	LDWLW	
7 QPR	21	34	+8	DDLWW	
8 Liverpool	21	32	+7	LWDDD	
9 Aston Villa	21	31	+1	EDDLL	
10 Ipswich	22	30	-4	DWDWD	
11 West Ham	22	30	-7	WLWLD	
12 Wimbledon	21	28	-4	DLWWL	
13 Sheffield Wed	21	27	+8	WWDLW	
14 Tottenham	22	27	+3	LDWDL	
15 Coventry	20	27	-2	LWLWD	
16 Everton	21	26	-6	DWLDL	
17 Manchester City	21	19	-8	LLWLL	
18 Oldham	22	19	-18	DWLDL	
19 Sheffield Utd	22	18	-15	DWOLD	
20 Southampton	22	17	-12	LLLLL	
21 Chelsea	22	15	-12	DLLDL	
22 Swindon	22	14	-28	DLDWL	

Change Up Stayed the same Down

Not including last night's match: Everton v Sheffield Wed



Kevin Campbell rises head and shoulders above the defence on his way to scoring a hat-trick for Arsenal against Swindon in the Premiership match at the County Ground yesterday afternoon. Report, page 17

## Preston find cold comfort from Beck's old tactics

Preston North End ..... 1  
Chester ..... 1

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

THE third division's biggest crowd of the season, 12,790, braved freezing temperatures to fill Deepdale yesterday. So uncommonly long were the queues at the turnstiles that police put the kick-off back ten minutes.

Judged purely on quality, it was not worth the wait. That said, there was no lack of incident as the division's most direct attacking unit confronted a Chester side tight at the back and clever on the break. The resulting draw was a fair outcome and leaves both teams well placed for promotion.

Eager to make their Cockney manager feel at home in his adopted Lancashire, Preston supporters have given John Beck a flat cap. Bitterly cold though it was yesterday, Beck was not wearing it. Instead the slight, tracksuited figure looked no different from the days when he led Cambridge out of the old fourth division to the brink of the Premiership.

And if Beck has not changed physically, his footballing philosophy is just the same, too. Preston, wearing tracksuit bottoms to protect them from not only the

chill but the plastic pinch which is the bane of Beck's life, played with two wingers. Ainsworth and the impressive Raynor. They placed faith in long balls and set great store by their throw-ins and crosses.

The first goal yesterday duly came from a cross but, from Preston's point of view, it was scored at the wrong end. Wheeler centred and Nibbeling, desperately back pedalling, was caught off balance and diverted the ball into his own net, via a shin.

Presumably, fearing Beck's half-time assessment, Preston pressed forward. This policy paid off a minute before the break when Ellis volleyed past Felgate from an acute angle, 12 yards out. That



Beck relies on long ball

equaliser was Ellis's 22nd goal of the season, so the system obviously suits him. Interestingly, Ellis was the sole survivor of the Preston side that played Chester at Deepdale in the second division last season. Since then, Beck has become manager, introducing almost as many new players as fresh ideas.

For much of the first-half, though, Preston struggled against a visiting side almost completely comprised of free transfers. O'Hanlon was the busier goalkeeper, twice saving smartly from Leonard. Lightfoot, the Chester mid-field player, proved the first-half's most creative, player, although Raynor came more into his own after the interval.

A glaring error by Greenall apart, which prompted Felgate to produce an excellent save from Ellis, Chester defended competently and offered a constant threat on the counter attack. Talking of attack, Preston are the league's leading scorers this season, averaging four goals a game. But not yesterday. Beck clearly needs to give his players a few lessons in the art of staying on-side.

PRESTON NORTH END (4-4-2): K O'Hanlon — A Fensome, G McElroy, O Moore, R Kilday — P Raynor, N Whalley (sub: L Greenall, 50min), R Lucas, G Ainsworth (sub: M Connolly, 80min) — A Ellis, J Brown, C Chester (sub: D Felgate — J Johnson, M Corne, C Greenall, J Jubb — R Phoenix, C Lightfoot, P Wheeler — O Thompson, D Pugh, M Leonard. Referee: K Lynch.

## Collymore saves a point and Crossley's blushes

Nottingham Forest ..... 1  
Middlesbrough ..... 1

BY DENNIS SHAW

THE first division's highest attendance of the season, 26,901 at the City Ground, was treated to two spectacular goals yesterday. Forest were left with a recent unbeaten run intact while Middlesbrough confirmed that their nightmare spell is ending, after a match of quality football on a frost-bound surface.

But for those goals, by Moore, for Middlesbrough, and Collymore, it would have been a vaguely disappointing exercise, though those two moments will remain in the memory. For Crossley, the Forest goalkeeper, the first was a source of humiliation.

Five minutes into the second half he was a spectator as the fresh youth international fired a 20-yard shot from an oblique angle on the left.

The attack which led to it seemed of little consequence and Crossley clearly believed the powerful shot was passing wide of his far post. As the ball flew across him he simply raised his left arm as though to wave it to safety but he reckoned without his swirling accuracy. The ball hit the inside of the post and rebounded over the line for an unexpected 1-0 lead.

Moore, in his first full season, had netted with other similar strikes, but surely never to beat an entirely static goalkeeper.

Middlesbrough, who had won only once in their previous 13 League games, perhaps deserved their lead if only for the way they had denied Forest any meaningful strikes on goal.

In the immediate post-Brian Clough era his successor, Frank Clark, is building a sound basis for a return to the Premiership, though much hinges on the goalscoring exploits of Collymore, their

Five midfield players, including the impressive Norwegian international, Bohinen, were queuing up to feed



Collymore: equaliser

the predator lurking ahead of them. Between them they fashioned some fine approach play, but it was a defender, Lytle, who found the route to an equaliser in the seventh minute.

A long, high ball from the right side of the defence released Collymore for an assault on goal from 40 yards out, but the striker looked to be well covered by Mohan. The Middlesbrough central defender thought so, too, and eventually paused in his stride near goal to encourage Pears to advance.

That split second of hesitation was fatal. Collymore found an extra yard of pace to brush Mohan aside for a thunderous and unstoppable drive into the net.

By the end Pearce had almost fashioned a Forest victory, but Pearce made a flying one-handed save from the England defender. Crossley must have been watching in envy at the other end.

"It was a great strike by the 'Boro boy," said Clark of their goal. "The ball took a deflection off Cooper. Had Crossley dived I doubt if he would have reached it."

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-5-1): M Crossley, D Lytle, C Cooper, S Christie, S Burton, S Gilman, S Gerrard, O Phillips, L Bohinen, A Butler, S Batten, M Holmes (sub: K Rowland, 71min) — T Morley, L Chapman. Referee: K Barnett.

Ipswich Town ..... 1  
West Ham United ..... 1

BY KERRY PIKE

COMPETITIVE without ever becoming passionate, acceptably entertaining but never riveting: two of the Premiership's middle-of-the-table, middle-of-the-road teams served up some all too predictable fare at Portman Road.

Either team could have won it but neither really deserved to, and both professed themselves reasonably happy with the point that keeps them in tenth and eleventh places respectively. Too good to go down, but too ordinary to challenge for a place in the Uefa Cup. The FA Cup is to come, of course, but an early exit from that competition will leave an unappetising second-half of the season to come in Suffolk and east London.

In the long term, more is expected, perhaps, of West Ham. Having bounced between the top divisions in recent seasons, they have at last discovered the secret of stability — a well-drilled team that works hard for each other, a passing game that is better than most, and a pair of strikers in Morley and Chapman who will take their share of chances. Chapman's equaliser yesterday was his eighth in 18 matches — not prolific, but proficient for West Ham's purposes.

Just three defeats in 13 matches before a Waddle-inspired Sheffield Wednesday hammered them 5-0 last week had seen United make steady progress up the table and Billy Bonds, West Ham's manager, was delighted with the way his team bounced back from such a mauling. "It was a great improvement, 100 per cent better, and I was delighted with our performance."

Diplomatic as he tried to be, Bonds could not disguise his frustration at the tactics employed by a team now led by two men from the Upton Park academy in John Lyall and Mick McGivern. "Ipswich

packed a lot of bodies in midfield, left a couple of little men up front and tried to play us on the break." Bonds said. "They are certainly hard to break down."

When the same point was put to McGivern — that, as the home team, Ipswich were duty bound to be more enterprising — the response was tetchy. McGivern eventually pointed to an eight-match unbeaten run as all the justification he needed.

Ipswich supporters, forced to a diet of Norwich success stories in the last 18 months, certainly do not seem to mind. The club's biggest crowd of the season saw them grind out another reasonable result.

The Ipswich supporters' patience, though, is being tested by a policy of playing four centre-halves as well as two natural full backs and starving Kiwomya of the support he needs in attack.

As ever, Stockwell was their only other player looking to get forward regularly, while Marshall was left to freeze on the substitutes' bench until 20 minutes from time.

Yet the play so nearly worked. Linighan's powerful header from Thompson's free kick that went in off the underside of the bar in the 38th minute, was his first goal of the season and remained Ipswich's only effort on target in the match. But had Kiwomya not blazed over an inviting target after Marshall had set him up, the game might have been put beyond reach for West Ham.

They were relieved by a mistake from Forrest, the Ipswich goalkeeper, who in the 78th minute dropped Burrows's cross at Chapman's feet. Chapman had spurred two simple earlier chances, but atoned from six yards. It was the least West Ham deserved.

Ipswich TOWN (4-4-2): C Forrest — E Youds, O Linighan, P Whelan, N Thompson — S Palmer, G Williams, J Wark (sub: J Marshall, 60min), S Slater — M Stockwell, C Kiwomya.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Middlewood — M Marsh, P Butler, S Batten, M Holmes (sub: K Rowland, 71min) — T Morley, L Chapman. Referee: G Poll.

Wallo  
Line  
char  
home

Portsmo



لحذا من الأصل



# I fail to point of implied cism

# Lineker discovers charity begins at home in Leicester

## Portsmouth in need of goalscorer to further promotion ambitions



**MILLWALL** (4-3-3). K Keller — A Dolby (sub: M Board, 68min), N Embayn, K Stevens, R Huxford — P Barber, A Roberts, A Rae — M Kennedy (sub: E Verweir, 68min), J Goodman, O Mitchell.

**PORTSMOUTH** (4-4-2): A Knight — W Neil, G Butters, K Symons, A Dobson — R Daniel, A McLoughlin, L Russell (sub: M Chamberlain, 74min), B Kristiansen — J Dumin, P Walsh.

Referee: I Bannitt.

[illegible]











## LAW

David Pannick looks back at 12 crazy months in which courts fined a litter lout £1,200 and ordered a rapist to pay his victim £500



At the trial in New York of Shaikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, accused of organising the bombing of the World Trade Centre in February, a potential juror was excused from duty after he explained that the sight of the courthouse in Manhattan always made him feel unwell.

"I get the runs, I get a bad headache, I get pains in my chest," he said. Many of those who entered courtrooms in 1993 will know exactly how he feels.

In upholding the convictions of sado-masochists for wounding each other by consent, Lord Templeman explained that "pleasure derived from the infliction of pain is an evil thing".

In Dorset, a judge ordered a grandmother to stop playing her Jim Reeves records at full volume for 18 hours a day. A man was put on probation for a year for attempting to deceive his bookmakers, Ladbrokes, into paying out £4,000 billion on a £1 bet.

The unit fine system established by the Criminal Justice Act 1991 was repealed after cases such as that in which an unemployed youth was fined £1,200 (reduced on appeal to £48) for throwing an empty crisp packet from his car.

The Crown Prosecution Service announced that it did not intend to charge Alan Clark, the former minister, in relation to his conduct in the Matrix Churchill affair. They had, they announced, been "unable to establish with sufficient certainty which of the inconsistent state-

ments made by Mr Clark was not true".

A jury found three former detectives not guilty of manufacturing interview notes which led to the conviction of the Guildford Four, who were earlier cleared on appeal. In another case, a judge held that because of prejudicial publicity, three former detectives should not

**'We are unable to establish which of the inconsistent statements made by Mr Clark was not true'**

be tried for allegedly telling lies to secure the conviction of the Birmingham Six.

The Royal Commission on Criminal Justice made 352 recommendations for reform.

Two boys, aged 11, were convicted of the murder of two-year-old James Bulger. A nurse, Beverly Allitt, was jailed for life for the murder, attempted murder and

assault of 13 children in her care. The Law Lords allowed doctors to stop feeding Tony Bland, a victim of the Hillsborough disaster.

The Prime Minister sued two magazines for libel after they published articles about his private life. Elton John won £350,000 libel damages against the *Sunday Mirror*. The Queen accepted an apology and £200,000 damages (which were paid to charity) from *The Sun* for publishing her 1992 Christmas message two days early.

The Princess of Wales obtained an injunction to stop the *Sunday Mirror* and the *Daily Mirror* from further publication of photographs of her in a gynaecium.

When the courts refused to grant an injunction to stop the *Daily Mirror* from publishing extracts from Lady Thatcher's memoirs, Andrew Neil, the editor of *The Sunday Times* (which had bought the serialisation rights) complained that "the judges have gone collectively bonkers". Most compassionate judge of the year was Mr Justice Beldfield. He

told the jury in the case of a man accused (and later convicted) of spying that they would have to spend the night in a hotel, and so he would allow "supervised" viewing of England's World Cup football match against San Marino. But, he added humanely, "Do not feel you have to watch".

The Divisional Court decided that the Home Secretary had erred in refusing to grant a posthumous pardon to Derek Bentley, hanged 40 years ago.

The judicial committee of the Privy Council concluded that it would be inhuman and degrading punishment for Jamaica to execute prisoners who had been kept on that country's death row for 14 years. A judge in New York was criticised for doodling a "happy face" on a death sentence which he had signed.

The House of Lords agreed that the courts had power to grant injunctions against the Crown and that Kenneth Baker, as Home Secretary, had acted in contempt of court by his treatment of an asylum seeker in 1991. The European Court of Justice held that English law cannot impose an upper limit on

compensation for victims of sex discrimination in employment. A claim by Lord Rees-Mogg that Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, was acting unlawfully in signing the Maastricht Treaty was rejected (though this did not deter a woman from issuing a writ against her MP for alleged breach of contract by voting for the treaty).

The conduct of the Serious Fraud Office gave serious cause for unofficial concern. The SFO apologised for making groundless suggestions that Mr Justice Tucker should stand down from the Asil Nadir trial because of an alleged plot to bribe him. The Attorney-General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, admitted that, contrary to his earlier statement to Parliament, the SFO had taken and distributed privileged documents belonging to Mr Nadir. A lawyer working for the SFO admitted forging a letter purporting to come from Sir David Steel, as an "April Fool joke".

There was hot competition for the most foolish judicial act of the year. A magistrate in London refused to hear an application because the

solicitor advocate was wearing a sports jacket. In Scotland, a sheriff put a defendant in the cells for 90 minutes for answering questions "Aye" rather than "Yes". A judge ordered a 15-year-old rapist to pay his schoolgirl victim £500 so she could go on holiday (the Court of Appeal substituted a sentence of two years' detention). A man who

**A New York judge was criticised for doodling a 'happy face' on a death sentence he had signed**

wolf-whistled at a female juror in court was sent to prison for 14 days (the Court of Appeal allowed an appeal against the sentence).

The former chief judge of the New York Court of Appeals pleaded guilty to threatening to kidnap the daughter of his former lover. A judge in Ohio told a defendant, "I've had the misfortune of being involved with some of the lowest

scum this county has to offer and you've made the top ten." President Clinton's first and second choices as Attorney-General, Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood, each withdrew because of allegations that they had failed to comply with legal requirements concerning the employment of home help.

In Canada, an enquiry recommended the dismissal of an Ontario judge for grabbing the buttocks of a court reporter and forcibly kissing a prosecutor. The judge had described himself as "affectionate". In Germany, the judge presiding over the trial of Erich Honecker, the former leader of East Germany, was removed from the case by an appeal panel because he had asked the defendant for his autograph. The Israeli Supreme Court found John Demjanjuk not guilty of being Ivan the Terrible, a guard at the Treblinka concentration camp during the Second World War.

There was widespread sorrow throughout the legal profession as Tony Rowland and Mohamed Ali Fayed shook hands and settled their differences. Mr Rowland explained that "we decided to keep solicitors out of this because otherwise the whole thing would have taken weeks and cost us lots of money". Lawyers are hoping that 1994 will not involve further displays of the unacceptable face of alternative dispute resolution.

David Pannick QC is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The most notable trend within the recruitment market in recent years has been a previously unseen fluidity at partner level. The concept of life-long partnership loyalty has been rarely tested in the years since the end of the 1980s economic boom.

Judging from the confidential conversations we have had with partners instructing us as to a potential move, partner dissatisfaction generally falls into one of four categories: direction, politics, financial and structural. In recent years, for example, the "single profession" fiction has broken down with many firms adopting an unashamedly specialist profile.

There is a growing feeling amongst some partners that partnership is perhaps no longer a satisfactory vehicle for many of the UK's largest law firms. Partners in such firms, with £10m plus turnovers and enormous prospective financial liabilities hanging over their heads are often becoming understandably dissatisfied as they find their day-to-day management contribution strictly limited.

At Quarry Douglas we are seeking an ever increasing stream of instructions from firms seeking individual partners or small teams of lawyers. In this context, the normal minimum client following required is of the order of £150,000. We have enjoyed a first class record in filling such openings.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Mark Field or Dominique Pennington (both qualified lawyers) on 071-405 6063 (071-351 6832 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Quarry Douglas Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4ET. Confidential fax 071-631 6394.

QD

QUARRY DOUGLAS

UNITED KINGDOM • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA • USA

## TRINITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE

## Nightingale Fellow-Commoner in the Law of Mental Health

The Governing Body of Trinity Hall intends to appoint for two years in the first instance a Fellow-Commoner in the Law of Mental Health to take office as soon as possible. The successful candidate, who should be legally trained, will be expected to carry out research on the operation of the laws which deal with mentally disordered persons. The Fellow-Commonership carries dining and other Fellowship privileges without a requirement to reside in Cambridge. Salary in the range £25,000 - £30,000 plus reasonable expenses.

Further particulars from the Vice-Master, Trinity Hall, Cambridge, CB2 1TJ. Applications must be received by 31 January 1994.

## LEGAL ADVISER

A solicitor with a minimum of two years PQE, and desirably with a knowledge of construction law, is sought for the post of Legal Adviser by the Federation of Master Builders.

The Federation is a premier trade association in the construction industry, having 17,500 members. The Federation's principal role is to promote the interests of small and medium sized companies in the building industry in the UK. The Legal Adviser will be responsible in particular for responding to enquiries from members on interpretation of building contracts, contractual disputes and employment law and servicing the Joint Contractors and Housebuilders National Executive Committees.

Salary according to age and experience. The post is pensionable and permanent.

Please apply with CV, salary required and statement in support of your application to:

Miss Susan Hunt, Research Executive, Federation of Master Builders, 14/15, Great James Street, London, WC1N 3DP.

## LONDON

## MEDIA

Fast expanding City office of well known medium sized firm seeks to expand its non-consultancy multi-media practice at partner level. Candidates sought will have proven experience in film, television, music, publishing and/or advertising spheres. Must be able to demonstrate an innovative approach to practice development. Opportunity to join well managed firm which offers immediate partnership and swift integration into equity. (Ref 21132)

## SENIOR EC

£60,000+ Unusual opportunity for experienced EC lawyer to play key management/fee earning role in London and Brussels offices of fast expanding City firm. Successful candidate will have at least 5 years' experience in EC sphere and must be able to demonstrate a combination of technical and marketing skills, and the ability to integrate with core and other specialist departments within the firm. Excellent partnership prospects. (Ref 2722)

## COMPLIANCE/FINANCE LIT

TO £45,000 Specialist unit in commercial litigation department of successful City firm seeks additional litigator to work as number 1 to lead partner. Applicants require Yellow Book and FSA knowledge and 2-4 years' practical post-qualification experience of litigation arising out of complex corporate transactions, for example, breach of warranty claims. Clear opportunity for career progression. (Ref 1773)

## CONSTRUCTION

TO £41,000 Niche construction team at highly regarded litigation led City firm seeks assistant, 1-2 years qualified, to handle complex and sometimes contentious, for example, surveyors' and architects' negligence and building contract disputes. Some relevant construction experience essential. Opportunity to join young, dynamic unit and enjoy structured career path. (Ref 217)

Our office is open on Wednesday 29th, Thursday 30th December 1993 and again from 4th January 1994. If you would like any further information in relation to these or the many other vacancies currently registered with us, please contact Sally Horrocks (a qualified solicitor) on 071-377 0510 (071-736 5515 evenings/weekends) or write to Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174.

## PROPERTY LIT

TO £65,000 Well known Central London firm with strong and well respected property client base (including leading retailers and property developers) seeks property litigation partner/partner designate for key management/fee earning role in established team. Candidates must have at least 6 years' experience of, for example, breaches of covenants, possession actions, 1954 Act proceedings and property insolvency. Well managed, profitable firm. (Ref 2815)

## BANKING/CAP MARKETS

TO £50,000 Leading City firm renowned for its banking and innovative capital markets work is expanding both in London and overseas. Currently seeks solicitors with 2-5 years' experience of domestic and international finance and specialist derivative products work. Ideally trained with another City practice. Rare opportunity for top flight lawyers to progress career with a leading finance team. (Ref 2788)

## BANKING/INSOLVENCY LIT

TO £45,000 Medium-sized City practice, highly regarded for its banking client base, seeks additional litigator, 1-4 years qualified. Will join banking and insolvency team advising domestic and overseas banks and insolvency practitioners on sensitive, high profile disputes. Team is well managed and structured to allow genuine opportunities for advancement. Friendly and relaxed working environment. (Ref 2781)

## PROPERTY

TO £40,000 London office of national firm seeks two additional property lawyers. Ideally 2-3 years qualified and trained with leading City or equivalent firms. Will join friendly and busy team advising on mainstream commercial property and banking/property finance matters. One to one partnership ratio with close involvement on transactions, client contact and immediate responsibility. (Ref 2682)

ZARAK

MACRAE

BRENNER

ZMB

## MEDIA/COMMERCIAL LAWYER

An Organisation operating in the world of international sport is seeking an experienced media/commercial/contract lawyer in the sphere of broadcasting and audiovisual rights in the Asia Pacific region.

A minimum of 6 years post-graduate experience in broadcasting and audio-visual rights, either in industry or with a legal firm in the Asia Pacific region is required. Computer literacy and a knowledge of French, Italian, German and in particular Japanese are an advantage.

Salary entirely negotiable.

Interested persons should send a detailed CV addressed to:

Mr Richard Clark

Harris Rosenblatt & Kramer

26-28 Bedford Row, London WC1 4HE

Reference: APL for onwards forwarding.

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.





**THEATRE page 28**  
A guide to the brightest  
shows for children:  
from The BFG to  
Whistle Down the Wind

# ARTS

**TOMORROW**  
Why the premiere of  
Synge's *Playboy of the*  
*Western World* caused a  
great theatrical riot



**SIX SHOWS THAT SHOCKED THE WORLD:** *Times* critics relive the century's great cultural sensations

## When pop was Experienced

**DAY TWO:** David Sinclair recreates the night Jimi Hendrix strapped on his upside-down Stratocaster, turned the volume up to maximum, and changed the face of rock guitar

On September 24, 1966, an unknown American guitarist called Jimi Hendrix arrived at Heathrow Airport. Accompanied by his English manager, Chas Chandler, he was admitted to Britain on a seven-day, non-work permit. Within a fortnight he had recruited two English musicians and convened the Jimi Hendrix Experience. By Christmas the trio had played in England, France and Germany and released their first single, "Hey Joe".

But it was a string of "showcase" concerts in small, London clubs that sent the first shock waves coursing through the tight-knit rock community. Between October 1966 and January 1967, at late-night celebrity watering holes like the Bag O' Nails, the Speakeasy and the Scotch of St James, Hendrix assailed musicians, journalists and record company tastemakers with a bravura display of technique and showmanship the like of which had never been seen.

**The sound ricocheted round the room; rich, clanging and loud**

There was, in reality, no single show at which all of the following events occurred. But with a little stretching of the imagination it could have happened something like this. From his vantage point behind the bar, Freddie looked across with idle curiosity at the band set up their gear. Like most of the casuals who worked the late shifts at this elite West End dive, he knew a bit about music and musicians. But he'd never seen any act bring quite so much equipment to play a basement club like this. The drum kit was normal-sized, but instead of the usual Vox or Fender amplifiers, which stood about knee-high, this lot had brought four huge Marshall speaker cabinets. Stacked in pairs, one on top of the other, on either side of the kit, and each with its 100-watt amp on top, these "stacks" were as tall as a man.

It was 11.30pm and the club was filling up. Although, in the world at large, Hendrix had yet to make his mark, in the upper echelons of the rock fraternity he was already very hot news. Over at the bar, even Freddie could feel the buzz of excitement. He had just finished serving drinks to Graham Nash of the Hollies and John Lennon, when he saw Brian Jones, Paul McCartney and Brigitte Bardot all melt into the darkness of the club. Ten minutes later, Mick Jagger arrived. He was accompanied by a beautiful blonde woman, but seemed more interested in a conversation he was having with Jeff Beck, the virtuoso guitarist from the Yardbirds.

It was just before midnight when the Experience sidled on. Hendrix, resplendent in an embroidered Regency frock coat, strapped a Stratocaster upside-down round his neck, plugged in and hit a quick jittery chord to check the tuning. The sound seemed to ricochet round the room, rich, clanging and, yes, incredibly loud. With little more ado the band launched into "Rock Me Baby", an old B.B. King song, but now speeded up almost beyond recognition.

Certain things were immediately apparent about this exotic newcomer. He had tremendous presence, combining mischievous sensuality with macho bravado. He sang in an elegant and authentically bluesy drawl which he peppered with asides and little comments. "Just watch me now," he yelped with unforced glee as he tore into another breakneck arrangement of a blues standard, Howlin' Wolf's "Killing Floor".

As the celebrity crowd watched with mounting amazement it became apparent that Hendrix also had at his command a range of playing techniques that were streets ahead of anything which other guitarists had so far attempted. Beck, in particular, watched with stunned admiration and a sinking heart as Hendrix ripped through the mashed, added-ninth chord shapes and siren-blooming solo of "Stone Free", whacking out a high feedback harmonic then using the tremolo arm to make it flutter, swirl and eventually dive down the register.

For Beck, it was all too much. Eyes glued to the floor he walked up the steps and out of the club. At the entrance he bumped into Eric Clapton and Pete Townshend. "What's the matter, mate?" said Townshend, looking at the baleful Beck. "Is he that bad?"

Beck rolled his eyes skyward. "No, Pete, he's that good." Hendrix saw Clapton and Townshend walk in. Here was the man British blues fans called God, accompanied by the performer whose hooligan stage routines with the Who had won him instant acclaim as the prototype "wild man of rock". Hendrix grinned widely and motioned to Stickells at the side of the stage.

"Get behind my speakers, man, and if anything happens, hang on," he said and launched into a version of "Wild Thing", which had just been a big British hit for the Troggs.

Hendrix slowed down the tempo, increased the specific gravity by several tons, and added a playfully risqué dimension to the song which the original had hardly even hinted at. As he launched into the solo, he



Jimi Hendrix and another third of the Experience, drummer Mitch Mitchell, in vivid concert at the Marquee club in early 1967

raised his left hand into the air, and cranked the volume to the point where he was playing the guitar, one-handed, simply by fretting the strings very forcefully with his right hand. Incongruously picking out the melody line of Frank Sinatra's "Strangers in the Night", he sank to his knees while the sequence dissolved into a shudder-

ing miasma of feedback. Next, he slid the guitar across the microphone stand, creating startling glissandos, then he played it over his shoulders and finally he turned and took a running jump at his speaker cabinets.

Luckily, Stickells bore the brunt of the impact, saving the equipment from toppling over as Hendrix

repeatedly hammered and strafed the body of the guitar against the speaker castings, setting off all sorts of distressed explosions of noise as the song reached its climax.

Here, then, was an introduction to a performer who was more bluesy than Clapton, more sexual than Jagger, more anarchic than Townshend, more technically ac-

complished than Beck and more authentic than the lot of them put together. Nothing would ever be the same again.

Within four years, Hendrix was dead. And yet, in all substantive respects, the art of playing the electric guitar has advanced hardly any distance at all beyond the point to which he took it.

**ROCK CONCERTS:** The voice of articulate anger south of the Thames; the hope of a more tuneful life north of it



Ice-T, the rapper with a heart of cold gold, points out a few home truths to his enemies — most of humanity, it seems

## Children of the revolution

IT WOULD be the easiest thing in the world to write Ice-T off as an ogre. This is the Californian rapper, a black man, whose lyrics are shot through with violence. Thrown off Time Warner Records in January after the furore that greeted a song entitled "Cop Killer", he never even hit the ground. He is probably the world's biggest-selling rap artist and, for many, the spokesman responsible for their induction into radical politics.

By joining with the four-strong black hardcore band, Body Count, Ice-T (or, to give him his real name, Tracy Marrow) has found a way of reaching the young white audiences who are rocking out to the likes of Nirvana or Pearl

**Ice-T / Body Count**  
Brixton Academy

Jam. They filled Brixton Academy in an excited frenzy, slumming and stage-diving. They had the band's two albums *Body Count* and *Born Dead* — word-perfect.

If the pairing of rap and rock seems odd, it should be remembered that the two have shared a history ever since Run DMC cut up their first Led Zeppelin riffs. From these beginnings come Body Count. Every song is a blur of noise: guitarists Ernie-C and D-Roc kept up a relentless barrage throughout this lengthy concert. The effects of Beamaster V and Mooseman's rhythm

section could only be measured on the Richter scale. Possessed of a fine pair of lungs and a resilient throat, Ice-T bellowed through tracks whose salubrious titles included "K.K.K. Bitch", "Death by Murder", "Drive By" and a ditty about his penis called "Evil Dick". This proved a special favourite: "Evil Dick Yeah!" chorused the Brixton heathens in tones that would make Wicked Willy shrivel up and die. Ice-T, clad in black combat trousers and a black woolly hat, beat time on his bare chest.

"Born Dead", which refers to the life opportunities of oppressed humanity, was a howl from the underclass. "Mamma's Gotta Die" was a shockingly graphic account of

the torching and dismemberment of a racist mother. "You let me down, mamma," is the refrain.

Protest songs were once tuneful affairs. Body Count makes no concessions to anything that might detract from its raging form.

There is an angry, primal sound as ugly — and, for some, as energising — as the first chords struck by the Sex Pistols. Punks spoke about disaffection and terminal boredom and these messages were worth attending to.

It would be pragmatic to listen closely to the lines in Ice-T's own songs, for in their fury there is a heart that wishes for peace.

LOUISE GRAY

## Some fantastic players, all right

**Squeeze**  
Forum, NW5

WHEN rock critics gather of an evening down at the Ligger's Arms, there to nurse a half-pint because they're buying their own drinks and chew the fat about the crucial affairs of the day, one topic must surely dominate all others: why, in a world crying out for the pure pop art that seems to have been forgotten in this dance-ridden era, aren't Squeeze bigger than they are?

Granted, a 15-year career is not to be sneezed at. Nor are three Top Ten singles and a raft of respectably selling albums, the latest being the beautiful *Some Fantastic Place*. But they should have done so much more. At the Forum, as at the Albert Hall a couple of months ago, they were preaching to the converted, that group of thirty-something, balding at the front and ponytailed at the back enthusiasts (too old to be called fans) that was hooked by "Cool for Cats" back in 1979 and has bravely hoisted the Squeeze flag high ever since.

Think how much more exciting it would have been had Take That, or their minders, decided to record "Goodbye Girl". The Forum would have been packed with prepubescent making love suggestions about Chris Difford's patchwork jacket. But it was not to be.

Instead, we had to move those bits of our body that don't creek to some gorgeous tunes, spectacular musicianship and occasionally risible lyrics ("This morning at 4.50 I took her rather nifty", from "Up The Junction" has got to be one of the worst lines in pop). When we could hear

them, that was — the sound in the Forum was dire, a sort of primeval sludge from which the songs we knew and loved so well would rear their lovely heads.

Difford (rhythm guitar — these details inserted for the benefit of the millions who do not know), Glenn Tilbrook (fab lead guitar), Paul Carrack (keyboards), Keith Wilkinson (bass) and Pete Thomas (drums) kicked off with "Another Nail in My Heart", which everyone seemed to know, despite the fact that it only got to No 17 in 1980. Soon, the audience was in full, thrilling voice on "Pulling Mussels From The Shell" (No 44 later that year), and Tilbrook was obliged to point his microphone towards the faithful when they got to "Tempted" (No 41 in 1981). Word-perfect we were, presumably because we were the ones who propelled the songs to those dizzy heights at the time.

Besides the sound, there was one drawback: Carrack, once of Ace, has a fine soul voice, but it seemed a bit self-indulgent for him to give it an extended outing on a string of soul and r'n'b covers. But the band had, by then, been augmented by a trumpet and two saxophones, and were presumably acting on the basis that they had a brass section and they were going to use it.

CHRIS CAMPING

**RSC**  
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY  
Royal Insurance

## Travesties

An award-winning comedy by Tom Stoppard

'The perfect marriage of ideas and farce... you'll leave feeling DIZZY WITH LAUGHTER'  
Daily Telegraph

'BRILLIANTLY FUNNY'  
Sunday Times

New Booking Period Now Open  
4 performances over New Year  
31 Dec, 1, 3 Jan 7.15, 1 Jan 2.00  
BARBICAN THEATRE, LONDON  
071 638 8891

point  
ishes

user, Coventry,  
ngston, Leeds,  
on, Thurrock.







For Clinton, see (Lincoln National)



# Heseltine's year of living dangerously

A year ago, the President of the Board of Trade looked down and out. Now Philip Bassett finds him back on top and the DTI humming with activity

Sitting at his desk pushed oddly into the corner of his office high above London's Victoria Street, Michael Heseltine is, yet again, confounding the detractors who, yet again, concluded that this time he really was down and out.

A year or so ago he looked it. Hammered over the Government's and British Coal's handling of the pit closure programme, the coal crisis, it prompted seemed never-ending. Most ministers would have crumpled; although close confidants now acknowledge privately that he came close — very close — to resigning, the political resilience that has always impressed his friends and frustrated his foes held sway, and Mr Heseltine held on — only to be hit by a heart attack while on a weekend break in Venice.

Now, after an appearance at the Conservative Party conference that brought the house down without him saying anything, the President of the Board of Trade is fully back in business, the Department of Trade and Industry humming with activity again — "he's wonderful to work for," says a senior civil servant — after its own virtual hospitalisation while Mr Heseltine was away.

In a wide-ranging and fast-moving interview with *The Times*, Mr Heseltine seems back on top of it all: confident (confident enough not to know about what stage some of his department's work is at), seemingly fit, forward-looking, relaxed, joking about media interpretations of his own future. As we speak, he is buoyed by the, on the whole, favourable response to his decision largely to reject the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's recommendations on the gas industry and not to break up British Gas, opening it up instead to greater competition.

His subject grasp ranges from inward investment to the Prince of Wales, from the role of the DTI to the future of the Post Office. On last year's gargantuan political trip-wire, the coal industry, he is now confident enough not to know — not to need to know — how far the problem over the industry's pension scheme, revealed this month when the Bill to privatise coal was published, has yet been resolved, leaving the negotiations instead to Tim Eggar, the minister for coal.

On the issue of nuclear power, the nuclear review — first promised for next year, brought forward in the coal crisis to this year and now slipped back again to its original timetable — will now get under way in the new year, with the DTI confirming it will consider how far the industry is now competitive, the present economics of the industry, its contribution to electricity supply and its environmental aspects.

On the DTI's other main review, the long overdue examination of the future of the Post Office, Mr Heseltine is more circumspect. While admitting, unlike his department, which sticks, mantrically, to the fiction that the review is still under way, that the real position is that he has "not made any public announce-



Michael Heseltine is firmly back in business at the DTI

ment" about its conclusions, Mr Heseltine will not fully confirm the widely accepted view that it has rejected privatisation of the Post Office because of the political judgment that such a move could not be got through the Commons at the moment.

But he goes so far as to say repeatedly that the future of the PO contains "big issues about public concern" and that the political issues surrounding it are "not easy".

It is dissatisfaction with the PO being state controlled that is clear. "I think there are great constraints on any business operating in the public sector, which will tend to hold that business back," he says. "But so, too, is his political sense — honed still further by the coal closures fiasco — about the pitfalls of PO privatisation, emphasising the need to "balance" the "political sensitivities" of the issue against the ideology or efficiency of privatisation.

His reorganisation of the DTI is longer running than the PO review. "We have moved a long way down the road on the structural changes," he says, "but we have got a very long way

to go on the detailed implementation. But the framework is virtually complete." He runs through a mental checklist of what has been done so far — sector sponsoring, with individual civil servants assigned to specific market sectors to help UK companies break into difficult markets abroad; deregulation, with a substantial slice of the forthcoming parliamentary term likely to be taken up by a Bill on the issue; the single market open for business; Gatt complete; business links in place in a different way — not through the corporatist machinery of the National Economic Development Council, but more simple, less formal arrangements, including the increasing secondment of real business people into the DTI; and inward investment, with a new structure for obtaining and supporting it being shaped and the hunt on for someone to lead it.

Mr Heseltine sees inward investment as crucial. He accepts that for structural reasons — recession in Japan and Germany, the passing of the single market trigger date, greater worries in America about exporting jobs — the "first wave" of it into Britain may now be past, but he says: "There

are countries which are emerging and developing and creating large companies which will want to follow on."

In particular, he sees industrial change in Europe flowing from the political changes across the Continent as likely to lead to a string of industrial relocation decisions — and believes Britain is economically well placed to take advantage of any corporate moves within rather than outside Europe.

Competitiveness is the cornerstone of his vision — for what the department should be doing, for what British industry needs to be concentrating on, for Britain as a whole against its economic rivals. He believes the competitiveness gap identified by the CBI and quantified by his own department as Britain being about 25 per cent behind its rivals is now closing, although it will take time to achieve it. But, as he says, "there are grounds for quiet, gritty confidence".

As part of the competitiveness drive, he is proud of the greater involvement of private-sector business figures in the work of the DTI — and proud too that the often all-but-completely dismissive attitudes towards the department, at least some brought with them, have been transformed by what they have found when they got there.

Government-business relations have been a vexed issue in the past — not least for Mr Heseltine himself, with his pledges to intervene before each and every meal tested against actual practice and said by some to be wanting.

"Industrial policy" is not a phrase that openly passes people's lips inside the DTI these days, but Mr Heseltine is far from unresponsive to the idea of a White Paper setting out the Government's policy towards industry — a very different thing — as proposed actively by Howard Davies at the CBI. "The idea is not off my desk," he says, his laugh indicating it may well be fully on his desk. "I'm interested in how we can sharpen up our accountability."

One of the problems he is wrestling with in terms of an industry White Paper, though, is how to balance the different performances of good and bad, large and small companies together, while still saying something useful, while giving him the opportunity for a favoured group about reducing complex and important issues down to the voracious and hardly relevant demands of newspaper headlines — as though government-business relations were much of a newspaper headline — his point is clear: how does government parade the best without discouraging the worst; how does it persuade positively?

What he is certain about, though, in the two more years he says he needs at the DTI to effect the changes he wants to see, is that he wants to be told if business thinks the Government is doing it wrong. If it does, it should tell him — not through headlines, but privately, so changes can be made without posturing. He's hopeful his reforms will mean that there's less for the Government to be told about.

"I genuinely believe," he says, "that we are doing a good job. And if we're not — I want to know about it." A hostage to fortune, perhaps; but Michael Heseltine has long shown his ability to rise above that — a repeated platitude.

The man many in industry believe is the best minister for British business the Tory Government has produced is still ready for more.

## TEMPUS

### No boom time — but a recovery to remember

The time has come to review a momentous year on the stock market. At the start of January, the FT-SE 100 index stood at 2,846.5. Share prices had risen sharply since the pound dropped out of the ERM in September and base rates had fallen, but investors were still beset by worries about institutional cash flow, inflation and the strength of the economic recovery. As it turned out, the first two concerns were groundless, while the recovery has proved real enough, though certainly no boom.

A year on and the FT-SE 100 index is breaking new records every day, breaching 3,400 in the hours before Christmas, a rise of almost 20 per cent. The driving force behind shares and gilts all year has been the promise of ever lower interest rates, which should continue to tantalise well into 1994.

Against this background, almost all investors have had a prosperous year. Of the stocks in the FT-SE 100 index, only 16 fell during the year, according to figures from Datastream, the financial information service. Most are pharmaceutical companies or food retailers. The rest of the market has been dominated by record gains. Of the top 100 shares, five doubled during the year. The leader by far was British Aerospace, which gained more than 150 per cent as John Cahill and his team began to eliminate loss-makers, bring Rover back to profit, and put last year's £1 billion provision to work. Two of the others are banks, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Standard Chartered, as bad debt provisions receded and potential for dividend and earnings growth became clear.

In such places comes PowerGen, the fastest rising privatised utility. The shares have had a strong run in the past month as fears over a possible MMC referral by Ofwat have receded.

The best performing sector in the market was property, which bounced back from a low base as commercial property values began to recover. Merchant banks and commercial banks were high up, together with building materials, where investors were tempted by signs of a recovery in the housebuilding market. At the bottom, food retailers had a miserable year as the price war intensi-



effect of US healthcare reforms have reversed years of outperformance by the pharmaceutical stocks.

The performance of London shares put a smile on most investors' faces, but it pales into insignificance compared with events on other stock markets. Shares throughout the world were carried on a tide of low and falling interest rates, and as usual the less liquid developing markets led the way. The top performer in dollar terms according to Datastream was Turkey, whose market rose 196 per cent, followed by the Philippines.

Hong Kong was the best performing main market, where the index almost doubled. London only managed to come 35th in a league of 43 markets, but still managed to beat the 18.7 per cent in the FTA world index by a whisker. The worst performer was China, with a 20 per cent fall.

#### Tempus portfolio

AGAINST this background, it is pleasing to report a fine performance by the Tempus portfolio for 1993. You may recall this column selected six shares at the beginning of January. An annual portfolio like this may be an academic exercise, but it is important for an investment column to

	price on 4/1/93 (£)	price on 24/12/93 (£)	change (%)
Fortis 188	261	318	+21.8
Hambro	40	76	+90.0
Cwide	133	163	+22.6
Hilldown	1,058	1,598	+50.9
Storehouse	202	236	+16.8
Translogar	79	93	+17.7

\*Includes ICI and Zeneca share price combined

The underperformers on the list are Storehouse, which was held back by its continuing difficulties of improving the performance of British Home Stores, and Trafalgar House, whose financial problems turned out to be far deeper than we could have ever imagined. But the financial backing of Hongkong Land meant even its shares managed an 18 per cent gain despite two rights issues and a record loss this month.

Tomorrow we shall publish our selection of tips for 1994. With the market at such high levels, it is increasingly difficult to spot bargains, and certainly impossible to promise a performance as good as 1993, since share prices can easily slump as sharply as they have risen. But there are still a few interesting situations worth looking for.

NEIL BENNETT  
Tempus editor

### Oil issues give Dow a boost

New York — Shares traded higher at midday with oil issues stronger after an up-grading of the group by Oppenheimer & Co. and a firm showing by closed-end country funds, analysts said.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 17.61 points to 3,775.33, while advancing shares led declining issues by about ten to eight.

On the downside, health maintenance organisation shares sold on a New York Times article saying that the Clinton Administration would not prod Medicare patients into joining HMOs.

□ Frankfurt — Share prices closed the official session higher and are expected to rise steadily until new year in low-volume trading, dealers said. The Dax index closed at an all-time high of 2,253.98, up 31.14 points, with the market led by higher Dax futures prices.

□ Paris — Shares finished the first day of the account sharply higher, setting a third consecutive all-time high with the Cae 40 index closing up 25.07 points, at 2,276.55. Moves were magnified by thin volume, dealers said.

□ Tokyo — Shares ended sharply lower, but above the day's lows, in light trade. The Nikkei average closed at 16,819.88, down 321.23 points. It was the first time since December 8 that the average has fallen below 17,000. Investors were discouraged as Morihiro Hosokawa, the prime minister, failed to offer concrete economy-boosting steps on Friday, brokers said.

□ Singapore — Bullish investors snapped up shares, sending prices to dizzy heights. The Straits Times index set a closing record of 2,378.43, up 52.09 points. (Reuters)

Unit trusts, page 29

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Gone but not forgotten

OUR mining correspondent, recently returned from Ghana, brings the following tale to prove that bankers do, after all, have a heart. Handkerchiefs ready? Two years ago, poachers in the northern part of Ghana killed and ivory-stripped an elephant, leaving for dead a six-month-old calf, later found wandering and taken into care by local inhabitants. Tambo, as he shall be known, was trucked south to Kumasi Zoo, and his fame spread. He captured the hearts of everybody who patted him, and when Standard Chartered, which has extensive branches in Ghana, and British Airways, which has traffic rights into Accra, heard of Tambo's sad lot in life, they both did their very British best for him. Standard Chartered built a special ramp and made sure he had a comfortable stall. BA regularly flew in specially enriched milk from London, and three zoo keepers in Standard Chartered Bank T-shirts and hats, took it in turns to sleep alongside the lonely elephant as a substitute "mother". Zoo attendance doubled, and on his diet of rich milk, Tambo grew and grew. And why didn't our mining man walk the last mile from Obusai to Kumasi to pay festive respects to Tambo? Because, I am sad to report, Tambo has died. I wonder if caring for an Indian instead of an African elephant would

have saved Standard Chartered from the recent stock exchange stampede in Bombay?

A FIRM of Melbourne stock-brokers has received a letter from a prospective client who writes: "I don't want to brag, but when it comes to the stock market, I happen to be a mover and shaker. Every time I make a move, I shake for hours."

### Profit line

IF YOU use BT cheap rates to call loved ones over the festive season, you can be reassured that such discounts have not cost lain Vallance and his team as much as they had feared. Regular cheap weekend calls have already proved more popular than forecast, but BT had unwittingly lined its pockets before the deal had even begun. Under regulatory procedure, BT has to announce such schemes several weeks before they are introduced. Thousands of customers failed to notice the starting date and rushed to make extended weekend calls straight away, netting BT an unplanned three weekend bonanza at full rates. Always read the small print...

### Fully occupied

THE end of a recession is normally judged by the frequency of taxis for hire, but a more unusual indicator has surfaced in a well-known conference centre in the Square Mile. A sign on the door of a

lavatory at the City Presentation Centre in Chiswell Street, London, has led some visitors to wonder whether the property boom of the 1980s is back. The notice on the loo reads: "Quiet Please. Meeting in Progress." Perhaps it is just a reflection on where British industry has gone in the past few years...

### Direct answers

FIRSTDIRECT, Midland Bank's 24-hour telephone banking subsidiary, celebrated its fifth Christmas by taking 651 calls from customers on Christmas Day, most of them spending the day sorting out their finances. A spokeswoman said most of the calls came from customers wanting to pay bills and "quite a few calls came from people ringing up to wish us Merry Christmas". She reported only one unhappy customer. A man had bet that Firstdirect would not be open. When staff answered the phone, he cursed and said he had lost a bet and would now have to fork out for a bottle of champagne. The Christmas Day callers compare with 16,000 on an average working day, from its 514,000 customers. Last Christmas, 469 customers called in.

THE editor of *Taxi Trade Times*, essential reading for London's cabbies, is likely to enjoy the outdoor life. His name is Al Fresno.

JON ASHWORTH



### Seasonal Shepard servings

Anton Edelmann, left, watched by Giles Shepard, managing director of The Savoy, carves one of the 743 turkeys that the hotel bought for the Christmas period. A spokeswoman said that this was 120 more than last Christmas, and said it reflected a return of more American tourists — a prime clientele for the Savoy Group. She added that early indications were that the numbers of Americans coming to the hotel would go up in 1994.







## Heseltine hails competitive future for UK

By Philip Bassett  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN has improved its competitiveness with rival economies, according to Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade. Mr Heseltine's remarks, made during an interview with *The Times*, reflect a growing confidence among ministers about the state of Britain's economic recovery in comparison with many of its competitors, many of whom are still deep in recession. In particular, Mr Heseltine signals a greater degree of satisfaction with the performance of UK firms than was indicated in a Government document on UK industrial competitiveness earlier this year. That suggested in broad terms that Britain was about 25 per cent behind its main competitors such as Germany, Japan and the United States in terms of its overall output, productivity and growth. The controversial document prepared by the competitiveness unit set up by Mr Heseltine at the Department of Trade and Industry was eventually issued in a truncated form to the all-party Commons Trade and Industry select committee. Mr Heseltine will be questioned on his now more optimistic outlook when he appears before the committee again in three weeks' time. Mr Heseltine told *The Times* that the notion of a competitiveness gap had to be

Michael Heseltine wishes to stay at the Department of Trade and Industry for another two years to see through the policy of improving UK competitiveness

recognised, and that not to do so would be "conning yourself". But he added: "There are grounds for a quiet, gritty confidence" about British companies improving their competitiveness. "Look at the pace of change, and it's running in the right direction," he noted.

With low interest rates, low inflation, a competitive currency and a favourable tax climate all helping the corporate sector to work properly, the Government was giving British business the best possible assistance.

He emphasised there was no "short-term way out" of Britain's economic problems, tracing back a long history of competitive decline that he and the Government were actively trying to reverse. Even after a decade, he said, such a decline was still gradual enough for the competitiveness disadvantage hardly to show itself. However, he added, "after 40 years, there is a gap. Trying to reverse that is about a cultural shift".

As part of that, Mr Heseltine is to continue in 1994 both his informal contacts with senior business leaders and his programme of drawing in industrialists to work alongside civil servants, with

the specific aim of improving the practicality of Government-business relations.

In a wide-ranging interview about his department's work, Mr Heseltine—who appeared concentrated but at ease after his heart attack this year—also clarified his own position as President of the Board of Trade and the length of time he envisaged in the job.

After a television interview provoked media speculation that he still retained an ambition to become Chancellor, Mr Heseltine said the work he believed necessary for improving British competitiveness—both in terms of company performance and the role of the Government in assisting firms—would require another two years at the DTI.

Fulfilment of that—Mr Heseltine has been at the DTI since last year's General Election—would mark a significant shift from the high turnover and short tenure of many of his predecessors as DTI secretaries of state. It would also greatly boost morale in a department that some, in both industry and the Government, have seen as drifting, unsure of its role in both spheres of influence.

Living dangerously, page 30



Skiers are buying new equipment as fast as manufacturers are making improvements for a quicker but safer sport

## Technology keeps cold wind of recession from ski slopes

Early snow and updating of equipment have helped the sport weather a harsh economic climate, says Ivo Tennant

Early snow means that business is booming for the ski industry this year. Before Easter, about 800,000 Britons will slope off to the slopes of continental Europe, America or even Scotland for a holiday that is energetic and, increasingly, technical.

Though skiing may be only a seasonal pursuit for these sporting tourists, advancement in manufacturing is such that they, like their foreign counterparts, are upgrading their equipment as never before. Recession has not tempered demand for the best, which is almost unrecognisable to the skiers of ten years ago, let alone those who used chunks of hand-carved hickory for skis.

The technology developed this year enables skiers of all skills to travel faster, it has also made the sport safer: broken legs are less common. The quality of ski is all important. The new top range of skis patented by Rossignol,

of France, can make a difference of 0.02sec to the likes of Alberto Tomba, the Olympic champion, in world cup events. Each ski, which has tiny tyre-like marks underneath, is tested 50 times. Each pair costs £120,000. For the holiday-maker, the latest fibreglass prototype, with vibration absorption, costs between £200 and £380.

Such is the competition among leading manufacturers—Benetton Nordica and Salomon vie for prominence with Rossignol—that workers are sworn to confidentiality and photographers are banned from the new high-tech factory at Voiron, France. Cheap skis are being produced in Bulgaria and elsewhere but this is one item of sports equipment it is not

advisable to skimp on. In Japan, the more expensive the skis and the more notable the brand, the better they sell. But prices of skis and boots have not changed over the last year, partly because new technology has saved 20 per cent on costs. The four-buckle boot (about £270 a pair) has become more popular as recreational skiers follow the fashion set by the sport's stars.

After three years of losses, his firm, which has started to recycle unwanted equipment, is back in profit after restructuring. Its shares rose in Paris from £1780 in July to more than £12000 this month.

Owing to artificial snow-making machinery, the season now begins and ends earlier. Savoie, which covers a third of the skiing area of France, accrues £125 billion a year through its 27 million mostly winter visitors.

The recession has not affected the popularity of skiing, while the constant updating of factories and equipment has helped manufacturers keep the wolf from the slopes.



Olympic ski champion Alberto Tomba in his role as downhill advertising hoarding

## Interest rate cuts urged

Henning Christophersen, the European Commission vice-president, called for fresh European interest rate cuts but said: "This can only happen in the presence of good macro-economic policies aimed at stability."

In an interview with *Diario de Noticias*, the Portuguese newspaper, he said that most EC states were showing signs of economic upturn, "but recovery is still going very slowly".

### Marriott cash

Host Marriott has registered plans with the Securities and Exchange Commission to offer publicly 17.5 million common shares, valued at about \$151 million. The money will be used to acquire hotels and other assets. The company manages 129 hotel properties worldwide and has been seen as a rival to Forte to form a joint venture for Italy's Ciga group.

### Bribes sentence

Four former employees of Japan's Kirin Brewery were convicted of paying more than £180,300 to keep racketeers from disrupting an annual shareholders' meeting. They were given suspended prison sentences of five to six months. The company denied any links with the payments.

### Lottery contract

GTEch Holdings, one of the Camelot partners bidding to operate the British lottery, has won a five-year contract to supply equipment and services to Polia Chilena de Beneficiencia, Chile's state-owned national lottery company.

### Disney down

Shares in Euro Disney slumped more than 6 per cent on a French report that banks were being offered a 45 per cent discount for Euro Disney loans on the secondary debt market. The shares were £2.50 lower at £30.70.

### Stake in Astra

Deutsche Bundespost Telekom, the German state telecommunications monopoly, will acquire a stake in Société Européenne des Satellites (SES), a Luxembourg company that operates the Astra satellite television system.

### Lloyds buys

Lloyds Chemists, the UK's second biggest chemist chain after Boots, paid £1.1 million for Trident Pharmaceuticals, a wholesaler covering southern England and South Wales.

## Mazda and Ford in new joint deal

By Kevin Eason  
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

FORD and Mazda yesterday announced a co-operation deal that could revive the chances of them making a small car for Europe.

The venture will allow the companies to share costly research and development resources and intensify a relationship dating from 1979, when Ford took a 25 per cent equity stake in Mazda. Unlike other Japanese manufacturers, Mazda does not have extensive foreign manufacturing capacity and none in the European Community.

The companies had explored the possibility of a joint venture to build about 200,000 small cars a year from a European site. The car would be in the Fiesta class and would rival cars coming from Toyota and Nissan plants in the UK. The deal was called off earlier this year after both sides failed to agree. The new agreement could renew enthusiasm to try again.

Ford is to increase representation on the Mazda board from four to seven, of which four will become full-time members of Mazda's management. Mazda will benefit from the strength of the world's second biggest carmaker.

## French bank sues London council

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

CREDIT Commercial de France has launched legal action against the London borough of Hammersmith and Fulham in an attempt to recover money it lost in interest rate swap deals in the 1980s.

The bank has lodged a suit in the commercial division of the High Court in London seeking repayment of the money and alleging fraud on the grounds that the council made "false statements to CCF regarding its powers to undertake swap operations".

The statement did not say how much money CCF, a private bank, was seeking. A spokeswoman refused to reveal how much the bank was trying to recover. In the past, Michel Pennebreau, former CCF chairman and chief executive, has said the bank's exposure was "not the major problem. We are a large bank".

CCF was one of a number of banks that lost out when Hammersmith and Fulham and other councils failed to pay up when interest rate swap deals went against them. There was no one at Hammersmith and Fulham prepared to comment. In 1991, the House of Lords ruled that local authorities had no power to enter interest rate swap agreements and, therefore, had no obligation to pay

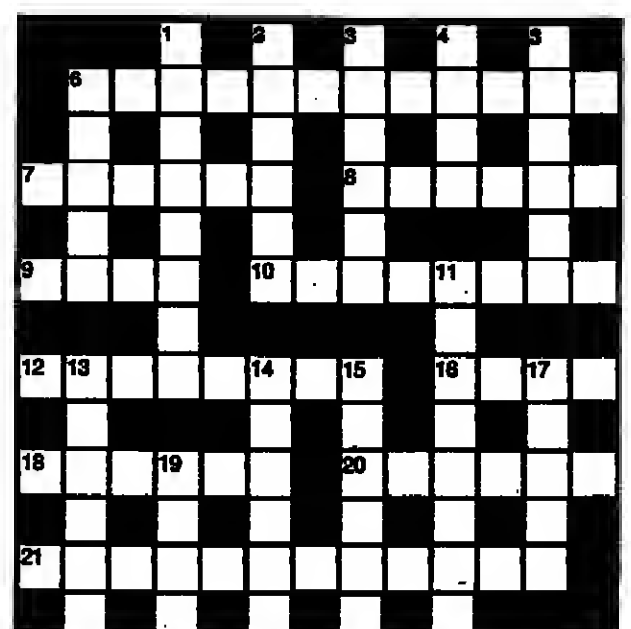
banks some tens of millions of pounds that were owing on outstanding deals.

The decision left 80 banks facing losses of £560 million on swap transactions with 130 councils. They have been left to try to recover about a quarter of their losses through restitution—reclaiming the interest paid to councils under the invalid swap agreements.

In 1989, after an initial high court ruling that the contracts were null and void, Charles de Croisset, president and chief operating officer of commercial banking at CCF, said: "It is unbelievable that transactions concluded in an apparently regular fashion, presented by licensed London money markets should, after a period of seven years, be suddenly declared null and void."

A Bank of England spokeswoman said yesterday: "We would welcome anything that would resolve the legal uncertainty." The Bank does not regulate the swaps market, but has a watching brief.

CCF said the Court of Appeal had ruled in favour of a bank in a similar case. That is thought to refer to a ruling that the London borough of Islington must pay £1.4 million to Westdeutsche Landesbank.



CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: Crosswords on computer (circa 60 puzzles per title—enhanced graphics for all IBM and Acorn PCs. Price £10.70 each. Range includes: *The Times Crosswords*—Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (100 puzzles); *The Times Sunday Crosswords*—Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (100 puzzles); *The Times Crosswords*—Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (100 puzzles). Prices inc p&h (UK). Cheques to Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards. New computer crossword releases *The Times Crosswords 11*, *The Times Sunday Crosswords 5*, *The Sunday Times Crosswords 12*, *The Sunday Times Computer Crosswords*—Vols 5 & 6 £10.70 each.

## TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 48

### ACROSS

- Spot affording favourable view (7,5)
- Kitchen grinder (6)
- Maintenance (cost) (6)
- Outstandingly brave person (4)
- Time limit (8)
- Time of decay of 50% of radioactive sample (4-4)
- US/European alliance (1,1,1,1,1)
- Carve (6)
- Potable bean (6)
- Republican Britain (12)

### DOWN

- Finish shift; steal (5,3)
- Rigid bar for tamping down muzzles (6)
- Gorgon; jellyfish (6)
- Bottle stopper (4)
- Overlooked (6)
- Utter; express (5)
- Disposal of refuse by burying (8)
- Fasten to ground (6)
- Have purpose (6)
- Avoid (6)
- Cogs of wheel (5)
- Harry—, the Third Man (4)

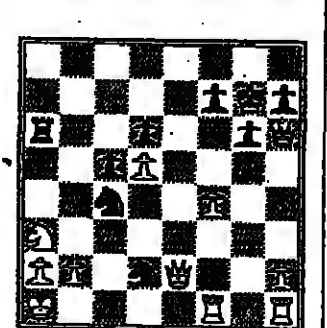
### SOLUTION TO NO 47

ACROSS: 1 Gibbon 5 Bird 9 Tallies 10 Wilkes 11 Discrete 12 Louvre 15 Broken 18 Delivery 20 Verona 22 Bavaria 23 Loll 24 Diesel  
DOWN: 2 Intuit 3 Ballcock 4 Noise 6 Idol 7 Dog-eat 8 As well 13 Universe 14 Indaba 16 Rueful 17 Crease 19 Livid 21 Oval

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation taken from the game Mecking—Basman Hastings 1966. Does Black have anything better than 1... Nxf3? Top Grandmasters at this year's Hastings Premier, which starts tomorrow, include Nunn, Krasenkov, Rogers and Shabalov. For details ring 0424 445348. Raymond Keene, page 6



By Philip Howard

### HOLY WRIT

- NABAL  
a. An oasis in Ur  
b. A rude husband  
c. An epigone of Baal
- NAAMAN  
a. An Amalekite priest  
b. A widow  
c. A leper

### TABITHA

- a. A keen needlewoman  
b. Pharaoh's cat  
c. A wild prophetic DEMAS  
a. A companion of Paul  
b. A false prophet  
c. A governor of Antioch

Answers on page 18

## CASHING IN YOUR ENDOWMENT?

WE BUY WITH PROFITS ENDOWMENTS AND WHOLE LIFE POLICIES AT SUBSTANTIAL PREMIUMS ABOVE SURRENDER VALUE. THE POLICY MUST HAVE BEEN IN FORCE FOR AT LEAST 7 YEARS. THERE ARE NO HIDDEN FEES.

### 30% Above Surrender Value Often Paid

Telephone: 081 207 1666 Fax: 081 207 4950

- Insurance Company
- Basic Sum Assured
- Start Date of Policy
- Maturity Date of Policy
- Gross Monthly Premium
- Total Bonus Attaching
- Surrender Value

FOR AN IMMEDIATE QUOTE TELEPHONE, FAX OR RETURN THE COUPON WITH THE INFORMATION INDICATED.

NAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SECURITISED ENDOWMENT CONTRACTS PLC

SEC House, 49 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 7JZ

مكتبة الامم